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Gov't panel approves Har Homa

Decision

By DAVID MAKOVSKY

A government panel unanimously approved the controversial plan yesterday to build 6,500 Jewish homes on Har Homa, in addition to construction of more housing for Arabs in Jerusalem.

Har Homa is thorn in PA's side, Page 2

The decision came after a reportedly unified assessment from intelligence officials during yesterday's meeting that there would not be organized Palestinian violence - at least in the short term - despite heated opposition to the project from Arabs and the world.

The 12 members of the ministerial panel on Jerusalem, led by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, approved the project during a three-and-a-half-hour session. The plans call for what will ultimately be 6,500 units in the southeastern Jerusalem neighborhood of Har Homa, of which 2,450 will be completed in the first three years. In parallel, the government said it would start building 3,015 units for Palestinians in 10 existing neighborhoods within the city limits, though it will boost that to 9,000 units over an unspecified time.

While peace activists said they would try to halt construction by petitioning the High Court of Justice, David Bar-Ilan, a top Netanyahu aide, said yesterday, "I think the tractors will be on the ground in Har Homa within the next week or two." In an unusual news conference that Netanyahu and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert conducted for Arab reporters immediately after the decision, the premier indicated that any Arab violence would be met with force. "We are prepared. We are resolute. We are taking necessary precautions," he said.

When asked if there was a deal whereby the Palestinians would not engage in violence in return for Israel increasing the scope of the March 7 pullback, Netanyahu said, "there is no deal."

As first reported in *The Jerusalem Post* last week, officials do not rule out an implicit understanding with the Palestinians involving acquiescence to Har Homa in return for a broader pullback than originally envisioned. US officials are said to favor a 10 percent pullback in the West Bank, while Israel originally wanted 2%.

The IDF and police went on alert and sent in reinforcements to Jerusalem and areas along the border with the territories.

OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan revealed yesterday that the IDF has concentrated forces in certain areas to be ready for any eventualities.

"We have not brought in reinforcements, but we have concentrated forces in areas where its necessary," Dayan told reporters on the Golan Heights yesterday, where he observed the conclusion of a training exercise.

There was particular attention yesterday to whether the decision would incite the type of violence triggered by the opening of the Western Wall Tunnel exit in September.

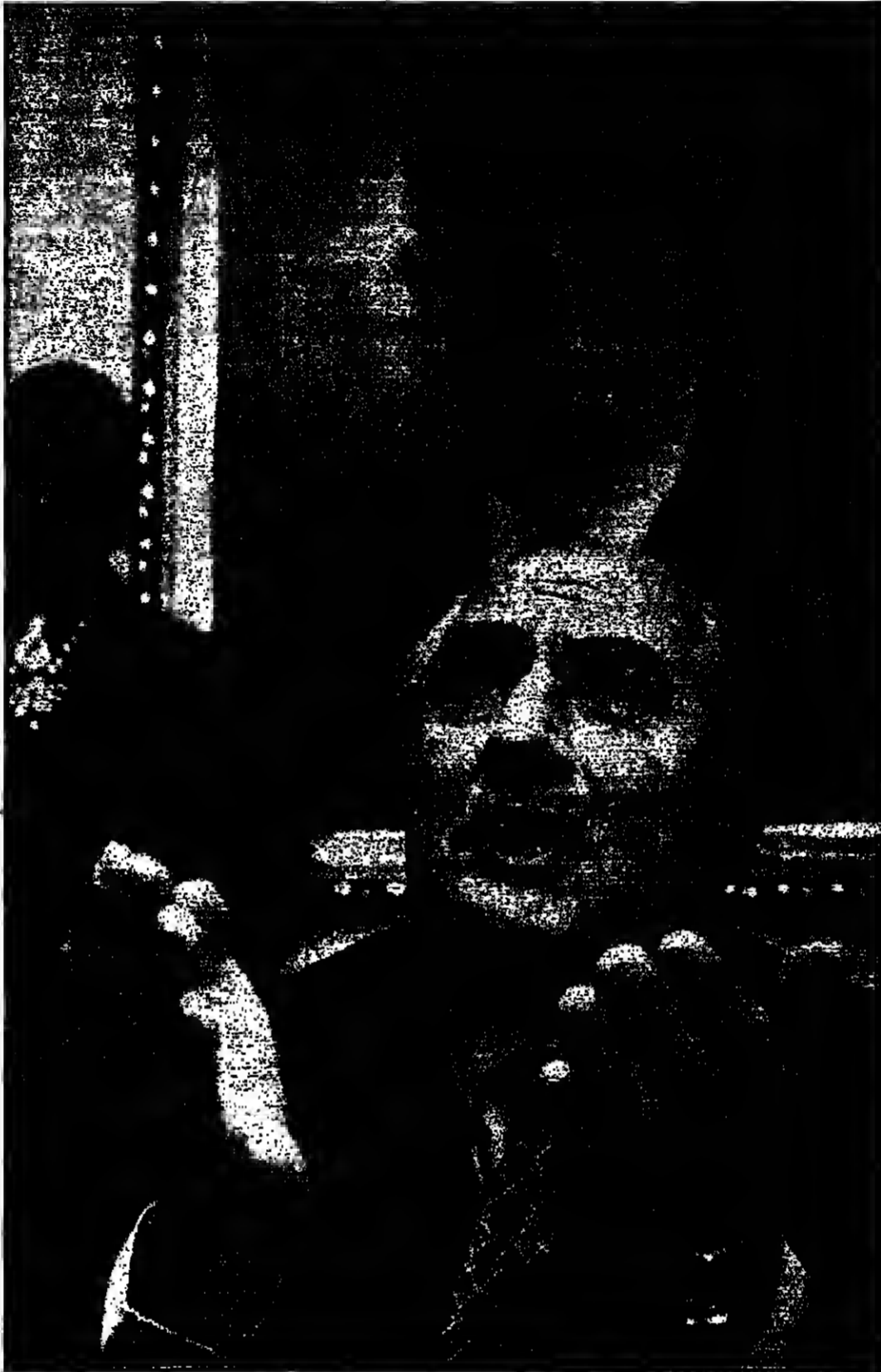
General Security Service head Ami Ayalon has repeatedly warned in the past that Israeli action in Har Homa could trigger violence. But two different participants insisted during yesterday's session that the intelligence community - including Ayalon - said they did not expect any trouble at least until mid-March.

Several reasons were given. First, they do not believe Arafat wants to endanger the first pullback, scheduled for early next month.

Second, present conditions are different from last September. Then there was no progress on the peace process and economic conditions were worse for Palestinians as the closure on the territories was almost complete.

Third, officials don't think Arafat wants violence as he prepares for his March visit to Washington.

Fourth, the Egyptians, who had been stiffening Palestinian demands during the Hebron talks, have apparently been counselling caution. "We think those favoring caution have an upper hand on those favoring violence," cabinet secretary Danny Navch said yesterday.



Faisal Husseini, the PA's top official on Jerusalem, sits beneath a portrait of former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin during a visit yesterday to the Knesset while his bodyguard looks on. (Story, Page 2 (Cont'd))

US raps decision

By HILLEL KUTTLER, JON IMMANUEL and news agencies

The United States expressed "disappointment" yesterday over Israel's decision to go ahead with construction at Har Homa.

State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns told reporters that the move "is not one that will build trust and confidence," which he said ought to be the cornerstone of the Israel-Palestinian Authority relationship.

"Frankly, the US would have preferred a different decision. We would have preferred that this decision not have been taken," he said.

At the same time, Burns called on the PA not to escalate the situation, saying that threats of violence are "the language of the past."

"The US would obviously like to see calm in the occupied territories, in Jerusalem and throughout Israel," Burns stated. "We'd like to see a disagreement on any

issue, including this issue, resolved peacefully between the Palestinians and the Israelis. And we reject those who call for violence - those on either side, Israelis or Palestinians."

The situation is sure to be discussed during PA Chairman Yasser Arafat's visit to Washington early next week.

US Consul General in Jerusalem Edward Abington said before the decision that the housing plan and other settlement activity would create a "very, very volatile situation." He said the US sent messages to Israel and Arafat that "we do not want to see any violence" after Israel approves the project.

Arafat called on the UN Security Council and the Arab League to help stop the construction in Har Homa.

Arafat, who returned from a meeting of the Higher Jerusalem committee in Morocco yesterday.

Continued on Page 2

Har Homa facts

Har Homa comprises 1,850 scenic dunams located in the southeastern reaches of the capital.

Israeli officials describe the location as between Ramat Rachel and Gilo, in an effort to link it to the Jewish neighborhoods of the city. Palestinians describe it as between Umm Tuba and Beit Sabur, to emphasize the Palestinian surroundings.

The wooded hill where much of the neighborhood will be built is visible to the east as one approaches the IDF roadblock to Beitlehem.

The ministerial committee on Jerusalem yesterday approved the overall construction of 6,500 units, to be carried out in two stages. The first stage, to begin after the final permit is signed by Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai, will include some 2,450 units. Yishai is signing the final order, rather than Interior Minister Eli Suissa, because Suissa was involved in the original planning of the neighborhood.

In 1991, then finance minister Yitzhak Moda'i signed an order expropriating the land for reasons of "eminent domain," which allows expropriation of land from private owners for public use.

Most of the area - 1,400 dunams - was expropriated from Jewish landowners, while the other 450 dunams were expropriated from Arab landowners.

The High Court of Justice rejected appeals by both Jewish and Arab landowners and approved the expropriations. Peace Now has said that it will once again challenge the construction of the neighborhood in the High Court.

The committee yesterday also decided to build 3,000 housing units in 10 Arab neighborhoods simultaneously with the Har Homa project.

Compiled by Herb Keiron

Flatow files \$150m. suit against Iran for daughter's death

By HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON - The father of Alisa Flatow, an American student killed nearly two years ago in a suicide bus bombing in the Gaza Strip, filed a \$150 million damages suit against Iran yesterday in a US federal court.

The suit charges that Iran is culpable for Alisa's death due to its underwriting of Islamic Jihad, which claimed responsibility for the April 9, 1995, attack.

"My family has no illusions about the road ahead of us. But we must take a first step," Stephen Flatow told journalists at a press conference.

Flatow said he was not seeking revenge, only justice, for the death of his daughter, who was 20.

Flatow's lawyer, Steven Perles, estimated that even if the case comes to trial, the process could take up to seven years to adjudicate.

He said the lawsuit seeks \$50 million in compensatory damages and \$100 million in punitive damages. Any judgment for the family could be paid through frozen Iranian assets in the



Alisa Flatow (AP)

United States, he said.

Senator Frank Lautenberg, who represents the Flatows' home state of New Jersey, helped pass an amendment last year that enables the case to proceed. He said yesterday he hopes it deters states from sponsoring terrorism because of the financial risk involved.

"There is no doubt that the funding spigot for international terrorism is in Iran," Lautenberg said. "Those officials need to be held accountable."

Shas ministers queried in Bar-On probe

BAR-ON

them for this afterwards. Police also wanted to ask the two whether Shas leader MK Aryeh Deri pressured them or instructed them to vote for the appointment.

Police also sought to corroborate and verify the version of events the two ministers had stated in the press - that they learned of the Bar-On appointment only when it was brought up at the cabinet meeting. Police want to know whether the ministers learned of the Bar-On appointment a few days before it was approved, either from Deri or others.

Testimony collected by police suggests a version of events concerning the votes of the two Shas ministers different than the one

Story behind attacks on Barak, Page 12

Yishai and Suissa recounted in the media.

Bar-On was questioned by police again yesterday at his home. Two days ago, police took documents from Bar-On's home. The main



Eli Suissa

By Jerusalem Post Staff

The two Shas ministers, Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai and Interior Minister Eli Suissa, were questioned last night at National Police Headquarters in Jerusalem by the team investigating the Bar-On affair.

Police investigators asked the two ministers about the circumstances of their vote in the cabinet meeting in which it was decided to appoint Roni Bar-On as attorney-general.

The two apparently supported the appointment without having consulted Shas mentor Ovadia Yosef, who reportedly censured



Eli Yishai

focus of the investigation of Bar-On himself now centers on the circumstances under which he met Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last November.

David Agmon, Netanyahu's former bureau chief, also gave testimony to police this week.

The police investigation into the Bar-On affair is now in its fifth week. Some 30 people have been questioned, several under caution.

This week, several central figures in the investigation are to be questioned again, this time under caution, including Netanyahu, Prime Minister's Office Director-General Avigdor Lieberman and Justice Minister Tzahi Haegebi.

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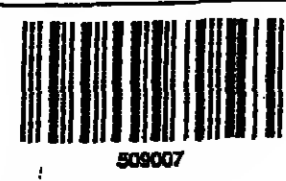
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Probe ordered into Hizme shooting

By LIAT COLLINS and Jerusalem Post Staff

Hundreds of Palestinians attended the funeral of Mohammed Abdul Aziz Ibn Halawi, 55, who was killed in the clash with IDF soldiers at Kafir Hizme on Tuesday.

At the funeral, Mustafa Liftawi, the governor of nearby Ramallah, called Ibn Halawi "the martyr of Jerusalem."

"We'll raise our flags on the minarets of the mosque, and Jerusalem will be the permanent capital of Palestine," he said, according to AP.

Local youths clashed with security forces during the funeral, throwing stones at them. The security forces fired tear gas in response.

In the Knesset yesterday, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai reviewed what he had learned so far about the Kafir Hizme incident.

"A military force that was operating in Kafir Hizme at some stage encountered danger as a result of its activities in the area and it was

necessary to fire in the air. It aimed and shot at [the Palestinians'] legs in order to prevent life-threatening danger to the soldiers at the site," Mordechai said.

He said the soldiers helped treat the Palestinians and sent them to hospitals.

"Three people were wounded: one from blows; the second in moderate to light condition [after being shot]; and the third was wounded - and unfortunately - died as a result of the shooting. The matter is under investigation," he said.

Mordechai expressed his regret for the incident and said Central Command had appointed a committee to investigate. The committee is expected to present a preliminary report today to OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan and Maj.-Gen. Gabi Ophir, IDF commander in the West Bank.

Dayan offered his support to the elite Durvevan unit, whose soldiers were involved in the incident.

On Tuesday night, he defended the soldiers, saying, "Soldiers were attacked ... in a manner that posed a danger to their lives and had no

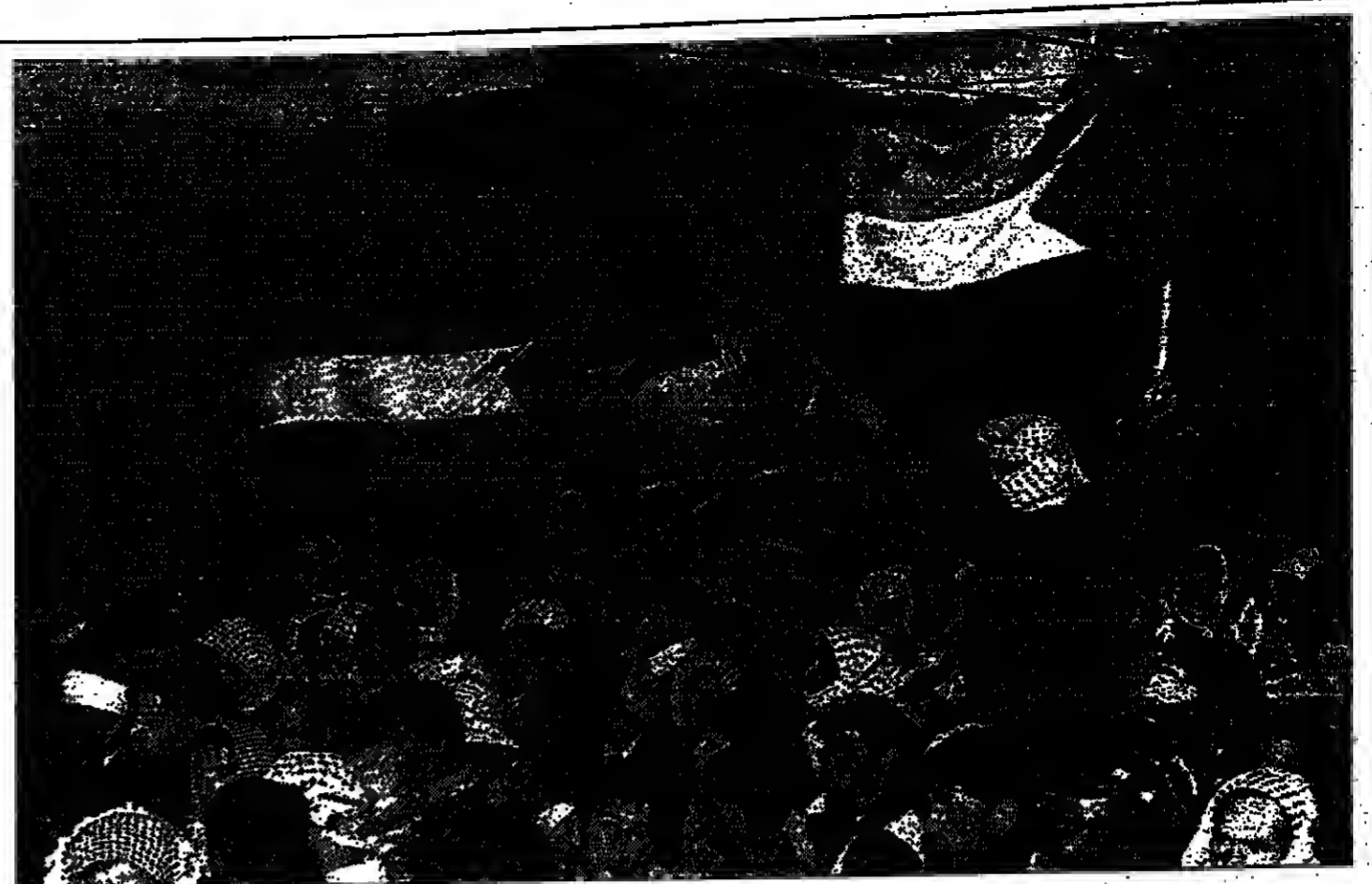
choice but to open fire."

According to initial reports, three Durvevan soldiers, disguised as Arabs, arrived at Hizme, about a kilometer north of Jerusalem's Pisgat Ze'ev neighborhood, as part of a training exercise. The soldiers, two trainees and an instructor, were supposed to scout out the village from the roof of a building, when the building's owner happened to notice them.

He thought that they were settlers, and he shouted, attracting a crowd that began throwing stones and other objects at the soldiers. The instructor, fearing for his and his soldiers' lives, attempted to save them by opening fire, causing Ibn Halawi's death.

Ibn Halawi's daughter-in-law, Abir Mohammed Abdel Aziz, whose husband Hamze Naif Mubarak also was injured in the incident, told AP the soldiers knocked her husband to the ground and beat him on the forehead with a stone. When Ibn Halawi tried to free him, the soldiers shot him in the leg and beat him on the back of the head, she said.

Ophir met Tuesday night with PA



Hundreds of people march, under Palestinian flags, at Mohammed Abdul Aziz Ibn Halawi's funeral yesterday in Hizme. (Chaled Zagher)

officials, including Preventive Security Chief Jibril Rajoub, to explain the incident to them. The PA officials issued a complaint,

along with threats if the undercover units continue to operate.

"Death and injuries in the process of an undercover scouting

exercise seems a bit exaggerated to me," a senior IDF source said yesterday.

However, he added that, "there

were incidents in the past, and whenever units [disguised as Arabs] operate they are liable to occur in the future."

Har Homa

Husseini, Abu Zayyad make appeal at Knesset

By LIAT COLLINS

Under the slogan "Yes to peace; no to settlements," Faisal Husseini, who holds the Palestinian Authority's Jerusalem portfolio, and the PA's Ziad Abu Zayyad visited the Knesset yesterday.

Despite the massive media coverage, the visit was low-key. The Knesset Guard was on full alert throughout. The meeting was held at the initiative of MK Taleb a-Sanaa (Democratic Arab Party). Although Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon authorized it, he demanded the meeting be held on the top floor of the Knesset "for security reasons."

The unusual gathering took place in the Labor faction room instead.

Husseini said he felt an atmosphere similar to the eve of the outbreak of the intifada and the opening of the Western Wall Tunnel exit in September.

"Then I said I don't know what will happen, who will start something and how it will end. The situation is very similar now," he said.

Asked whether he would call for non-violence, Husseini answered: "If Israel uses violence against the Palestinians I

think nobody will be able to do anything because it will be Israel which started it."

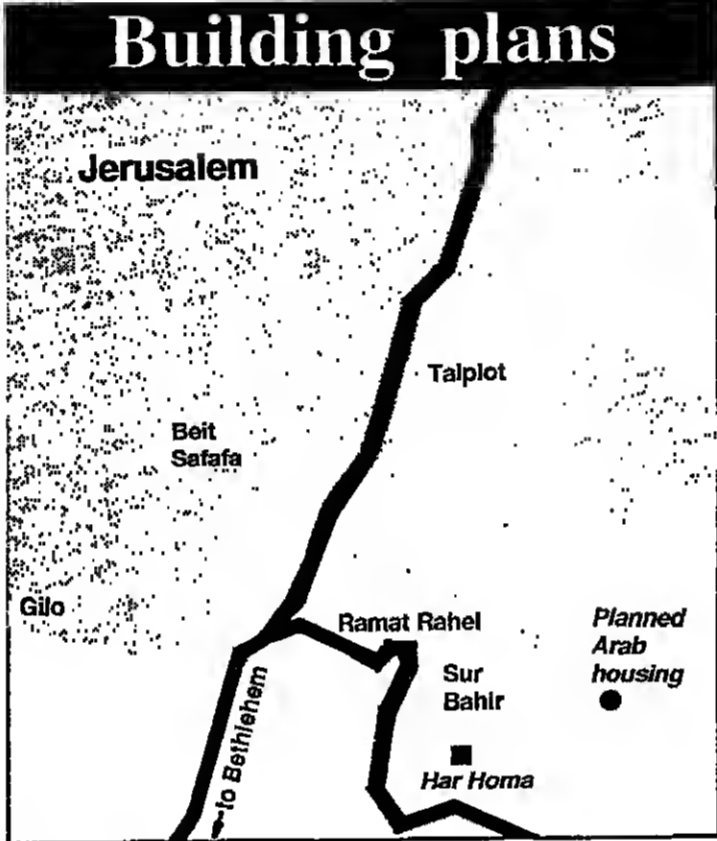
A-Sanaa said he and his Palestinian friends would block the bulldozers on Har Homa with their bodies.

Three Labor MKs, Yael Dayan, Yossi Katz and Knesset Interior Committee chairman Salah Tarif, also took part in the meeting.

As they left, MK Benny Elon (Moldelet), whose faction's offices face Labor's room, could not control himself and called out in Arabic: "Get away from here," and in Hebrew: "How many soldiers and settlers have you decided to kill?"

MK Micha Goldman (Labor) said he boycotted the gathering because "the timing is not appropriate and actually goes against the views of the Labor Party. There should be a dialogue with the Palestinians but not on the day on which the government decides to establish a new neighborhood in Jerusalem. This type of meeting is absolutely useless and is likely to create a provocation that could to a certain extent harm the Oslo agreements."

MK Ruby Rivlin (Likud) later demanded that Husseini and Abu Zayyad be arrested for inciting violence during the visit.



Meretz, Hadash file no-confidence motions

By LIAT COLLINS

Meretz and Hadash have filed a joint no-confidence motion over yesterday's decision to go ahead with the Har Homa project. The Democratic Arab Party filed a separate motion on the subject. They both should be heard in the Knesset on Monday.

"The government's decision will drag us into a tunnel with no light at the end," Meretz faction leader Haim Oron said. He accused the government of "throwing sand in the eyes of the public with false promises to build for the Arab population."

"We can't at the same time state we are progressing towards peace while simultaneously being dragged into reactionary right-wing plans of annexation. It seems the prime minister used up his entire reserve of flexibility on Hebron and because of his real opinions and coalition hawks he cannot make any progress beyond Hebron," Oron said.

Hadash faction chairman Salah Salim described the decision as "political pyromania" and said it was an invitation for unrest which could endanger the peace process.

MK Michael Kleiner (Gesher),

chairman of the Land of Israel Front, praised the decision, saying, "In these days when we're no longer talking about the unity of the land of Israel, it's good that, at least, we're still preserving the unit of Jerusalem."

National Religious Party faction leader Hanan Porat also praised the Har Homa decision and - in a play on its name in Hebrew, "The Wall Mount" - he said it should be the cornerstone of a wall of Jewish communities encircling the capital of Israel.

"He called on the prime minister to also approve the strip of homes which would link Jerusalem and Ma'aleh Adumim."

Porat said Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu should make it clear to the Palestinian Authority that violence on its part in reaction to the Har Homa decision could bring about a disaster and a loss of all it had achieved so far.

Israeli faction chairman Eliezer Zandberg also praised the decision and called for an end to attacks on the premier by the Right.

"The decision is proof that all the accusations about the government not planning to build were groundless and only harmful," Zandberg said.

Settlers fear further land withdrawals

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

With allegations of government plans to transfer "vast areas" of land in Judea and Samaria to the Palestinian Authority, the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza intensified its lobbying in the Knesset.

At stake, the committee believes, is 10 percent of Judea and Samaria that is to be handed over to the PA. According to Council spokeswoman Yehudit Tayar, the handover will be made under the first phase of redeployment in the West Bank, slated for March 7.

"What you will see is the establishment of large enclaves controlled by the Palestinian Authority, thus isolating some of the settlements," Tayar said.

"This is against the recommendations of the IDF and Defense Ministry," she said, adding that the council was exerting as much pressure as possible on MK's and cabinet ministers to prevent the withdrawal

from taking place. "There isn't even a proper plan stating the maximum amount of land to be handed over."

However, Kiryat Arba activist and council member Elyakim Ha'etzi said if the reports are true, they only serve to strengthen his belief that Israel has totally lost its independence. If the land handover figures "are true, then it's obviously because of the building planned on Har Homa," he said. "Israel cannot build on Jewish land without handing over to Arafat something in return."

According to Ha'etzi, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu is helping to create a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital. "There is no more Jewish freedom in Israel," he said. "Many of us in Judea and Samaria have lost our faith in Netanyahu."

Tayar said the council in the past had warned of a link between building in Jerusalem on one hand and granting the Palestinians a vast amount of land on the other. "It is appeasing the Palestinians."

Hanging onto the dream

With cries of "the heart of the people is the heart of the country," a crowd of 200 braved the cold weather to show their support for the newly formed Committee for Judea, Samaria and Gaza settlements, which held its first meeting last night.

Well-known faces from Nadia Matar of Women in Green, Professor Eli Pollack of Professors for a Strong Israel, Moshe Feiglin of Zo Artzenu and Moshe Lesheim, one of the founders of Gamla Shall Not Fall Again, praised the new committee and extended their help and support.

Other speakers included some of the committee's founding members, such as Rabbi Shimon Golan of Efrat, who told the crowd to hang on to the dream of a "complete Israel." The main theme was the need to unite settlers in a show of force to prevent the three stages of withdrawal under the final agreement.

M.D.

SLA slay Hizbullah gunman

By DAVID RUDGE

A Hizbullah gunman was killed and two others were possibly wounded in heavy exchanges in south Lebanon yesterday.

The IDF spokesman said at least one gunman was wounded by tank fire in the early hours of yesterday morning. A South Lebanon Army patrol, coming under heavy mortar fire, located the wounded gunman later in the morning and killed him.

There were also reports from Lebanon that shelling by IDF and SLA artillery damaged homes in Barasheet village, north of the security zone, and that a woman and two children were taken to hospital suffering from shock.

The fighting yesterday began in the early hours of the morning. SLA troops spotted Hizbullah gunmen infiltrating the western sector of the

zone in the Beit Yahoum region, apparently on a bomb-planting mission.

Later in the morning, Hizbullah gunmen opened fire with mortars and light weapons at an SLA patrol and an outpost of the force in the Beit Yahoum area.

There were no casualties in that attack and IDF and SLA gunners returned fire. Reports from Lebanon said the exchanges in the area continued sporadically from around 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. before the fighting died down.

Hizbullah leaders, meanwhile, reiterated statements yesterday warning of dire consequences if any more Lebanese civilians are harmed as a result of IDF or SLA activities.

"The (Grapes of Wrath) monitoring group has turned into a waiting wall. It hasn't changed anything on the ground, especially

Making a mountain out of a hill

By HERB KEINON

Hundreds of policemen moved into the capital yesterday to deal with possible violence stemming from the government's decision to build on Har Homa.

Faisal Husseini, after speaking to the Labor faction in the Knesset, told Israel Radio that what he smells in the air is intifada, and what he feels on the ground is what he felt just after the opening of the Western Wall tunnel exit last September. And Damascus Radio broadcast that building Har Homa is tantamount to a declaration of war on the Arab nation.

Yet, despite it all, eastern Jerusalem streets were bustling yesterday. If tension was indeed "in the air," it was not palpable. If indeed there was a massive increase of policemen in Jerusalem, they were not evident on the main eastern Jerusalem streets. If indeed the Har Homa decision will "light a fire," the kindling wood was still somewhere out in the back.

"If something was about to happen here," the owner of a woman's clothing store on Suleiman Street said, "the shutters would be closed and people would be bawling waiting for things to pass. I would not be here talking to you."

But the shutters on the street were not closed. The stores were open, and the streets, glistening in the intermittent rain, were full of people.

Police and border patrolmen were not evident near Jerusalem's Old City yesterday in any greater numbers than on a usual Wednesday afternoon. A couple

of kilometers away near the national police headquarters, dozens of border police sat outside their buses and ate lunch. They were the reinforcements, and they were keeping a low profile.

At Damascus Gate, the site of much nationalistic violence in the past and an area the police have marked as a possible "trouble spot," life flowed as usual. Vendors sold celery and lemons. Tourists listened to their guides tell of Jesus and Salah a-Din. A border patrolman stood on the Old City ramparts, his head hid in the hood of his coat.

A group of men gathered in a barber shop on Suleiman Street to talk and shelter from the rain. Although tension was not palpable on the street, the anger Husseini spoke of on the radio was evident in the group's words. "If they build, people will fight," said an elderly, one-eyed man. "This hill is not for Israelis. It is for Moslems."

When reminded that most of the land was expropriated from Jewish owners, the man, angrily raising his voice, said, "that is a lie. If Netanyahu will do this, we will fight him. Everyone will fight him. Netanyahu is a bad man, a very bad man. Netanyahu and my shop are the same thing."

The manager of the shop, hearing the animated words, kissed the man on his cheek and told him, "I agree with everything you said." A third man in the shop, who would also not give a name, said the government's decision to build some 3,000 housing units for Arabs "is a joke. We do not believe him. He won't do it. No one has built for us."

Har Homa is thorn in the PA's side

By JON IMMANUEL

Palestinian objections to the Har Homa project go beyond the simple fact that it is built across the 1967 borders and therefore constitutes in their eyes an illegal settlement. It bothers them on several levels.

Har Homa is located in the middle of the one large undeveloped area of Jerusalem, the southeast, which links Bethlehem to Abu Dis and would therefore have been a natural area for development of Palestinian Al-Quds (Jerusalem).

Abu Dis is mentioned in a proposal drawn up in the Beilin-Abbas paper as the major part of a future sovereign Palestinian Jerusalem and therefore is a crucial element in permanent status talks.

In the long run, Har Homa is seen as one unit in a string of Jewish neighborhoods planned across south Jerusalem, starting north of Gilo with Givat Matos, east to Givat Arba, on to Har Homa and continuing to Havat Mazrozyia. "This will sandwich Bethlehem between Jerusalem and Gush Etzion," said Halli Tufakji, a cartographer who advises the Palestinian Authority.

The housing for Arabs on the other hand is to be spread out among 10 other neighborhoods which are not in politically crucial locations.

The Jewish population in east Jerusalem is 165,000, according to Israeli sources, while the Arab population is 161,000. "So if Israel builds this big neighbor-

hood we have a larger Jewish majority there," according to Tufakji.

He noted that the final status Israel had in mind takes clear shape with the Har Homa project. An Israeli highway, Route 80, already under construction, will bisect southeast Jerusalem and turn north, passing Abu Dis and linking with Route 45, which will head west to Tel Aviv south of Ramallah. A short road linking Bethlehem to Route 80 could be constructed which would take Palestinian traffic directly from Bethlehem to Abu Dis, bypassing the rest of Jerusalem and its southeastern suburbs, continuing north to link with roads to Ramallah.

Tufakji concedes that 74 percent of the 1,850 dunams involved in the Har Homa project is Jewish-owned while only 26% belongs to Arabs. One-third of the Jewish-owned land belonged to Jews even before 1948. However, 42% of the Jewish-owned land was bought in the early 1970s from Arabs by a company called Makoor directed by entrepreneur David Meyer.

He said he wanted to develop the area on a commercial basis, without discriminating between Jews and Arabs. Tufakji said that if Israel had planned to build open housing for Arabs and Jews in Har Homa his own attitude would be different. Then the project would be shorn of most of its political overtones and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's assertion that it was simply natural urban expansion could be taken at face value.

US Continued from Page 1

said before his return. "The attempt to settle on Jabal Abu Ghneim [Har Homa] is an attempt to surround Jerusalem."

Jordan Television quoted King Hussein as saying in a letter delivered by special envoy to Netanyahu: "The decision is bound to shake the credibility of the peace process as a whole and fuel feelings of anger that will create violence and threaten the

peace-building process.

The European Union said yesterday it deeply deplored Israel's approval of Har Homa construction.

Israeli-Arab leaders yesterday urged the government not to give the go-ahead for the construction. The call was made in a statement by the forum of Arab Council Heads, which warned that the approval for building was likely to cause friction, which could explode into violence.

David Rudge contributed to this report.

BEYOND THE VISIBLE

Author SAYAKO ARAGAKI searches for the essence of the art of YSAOOV AGAM. Three photos and text, she discusses such things as Agam's father (who was a rabbi), his childhood and the Ten Commandments - all key to Agam's art.

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Panel: Friedman mentally unstable

By Jerusalem Post Staff and Ilin

Due to his unstable mental state, Noam Friedman should not be held accountable for opening fire on Palestinians in the center of Hebron, the committee the IDF appointed to look into the shooting recommended yesterday. The committee of three psychiatrists said that Friedman should be hospitalized.

A military court will decide today whether Friedman should face criminal charges for the incident. However, the committee was appointed with the understanding that the court would accept its recommendations on Friedman's mental fitness.

The IDF is still checking how and why Friedman, who has been hospitalized in the past for his mental problems, was drafted.

On January 1, Friedman, a 19-year-old soldier from Ma'aleh Adumim serving in a logistical unit based near Jerusalem, opened fire in the Hebron casbah, injuring six Palestinians before another soldier wrestled him to the ground.



Afternoon off

Convicted murderer Ami Popper (center) leaves Ayalon Prison for a few hours yesterday afternoon to attend his son's brit mila in Bnei Brak. This is the first time he was allowed out since being sentenced to life imprisonment for murdering seven Arabs in Rishon LeZion in 1990.

(Yossi Aloni, courtesy of 'Ma'ariv')

US Jew accused of planting bomb before Peres speech

JACKSONVILLE, Florida (AP) — Bail was set at \$1 million yesterday for an Orthodox man accused of planting a bomb in a synagogue before a speech by former prime minister Shimon Peres and blaming the act on an Islamic group.

Harry Shapiro, a 31-year-old former kosher butcher and theological student, was charged Tuesday with placing a destructive device and making a bomb threat. Police searched his home again yesterday.

Shapiro, who attends another synagogue, did not speak during his first court appearance yesterday. Duval County Judge Karen Cole set bail at \$1 million and scheduled Shapiro's next court appearance for March 13. He rejected the argument by Shapiro's lawyer, Hank Cox, that a \$1 million bond was "tantamount to no bond."

Shapiro called police with a bomb threat on February 13, the day Peres spoke at the Jacksonville Jewish Center before 1,500 people, police said. The caller, who warned of the bomb hours before the speech, identified himself as "the American fringe of Islamic Jihad." Police searched

the building before the speech, but the bomb was not found and the talk went on without incident.

Nine days after the speech, three children attending a luncheon after a bat mitzvah found the bomb in a hallway behind the temple's sanctuary and tried to tear the tape-off the package's casing.

An adult grabbed the device and rushed it outside. Police arrived, evacuated about 750 people and detonated the bomb.

Police had gotten tips that Shapiro was the caller and he surrendered Monday night.

After Shapiro's arrest, he was hospitalized. He later was jailed without bond.

Shapiro ran a kosher butcher shop in Jacksonville for about two years until 1993. Before that, he had worked at a kosher shop in New York City, police said.

After his Jacksonville shop closed because of financial troubles, he went back to New York to pursue rabbinical studies. The New York Times reported yesterday.

Shapiro returned to Jacksonville last November and had worked as a gas station cashier. He lives about 1 1/2 blocks from the Jewish Center.

NBC screening of 'Schindler's List' creates controversy

By TOM GROSS

Over 65 million American television viewers, more than twice the number expected, watched NBC's screening of Steven Spielberg's *Schindler's List* on Sunday evening, according to initial audience figures released by the network.

The three-hour Oscar-winning black and white film about the Holocaust was shown during prime time without commercial breaks.

However, NBC came under sharp criticism by a leading Republican congressman.

"This means an all-time low [for network television], with full frontal nudity, violence and profanity being shown in our homes," Representative Tom Coburn of Oklahoma, who co-chairs the Congressional Family Caucus, was reported as saying in a statement released by his Oklahoma office.

Republican Senator Alfonse D'Amato of New York called

Coburn's statement "shocking." "To equate the nudity of the Holocaust victims in the concentration camp with any sexual connotations is outrageous and offensive," he said.

The broadcast was sponsored by Ford, which agreed that there should be no ads in return for being allowed to display its logo during several silent intermissions during the screening.

NBC estimates the \$10 million Ford paid represents about half the advertising revenue it would have made during this time.

"We as broadcasters should not be pressured into putting on bland, non-controversial programming to appease the over-zealous watchdogs who would like to control what the American public views," said NBC West Coast president Don Ohlmeyer.

Prior to Sunday's screening an estimated 200 million people worldwide had watched *Schindler's List* at the cinema or on video, of which about 30 million were Americans.

Study: Courts biased against women

By ESTHER HECHT

When a man kills a woman, he can expect a lighter sentence than a man who kills another man. And when a woman's killer is a relative, the murderer can expect a lighter sentence than a killer who is a total stranger.

These were among the startling findings presented at a press conference in Jerusalem yesterday by Dr. Bryna Bogoch, a sociologist at Bar-Ilan University, and lawyer Rochelle Don-Yechiya.

In their study "Gender and the Administration of Justice in Israeli Courts," they examined the ways in which the gender of the main players in the courtroom drama — the judge, the lawyers, the victim and the

defendant — affect a criminal trial and its final outcome.

They examined over 1,100 judicial decisions from the Supreme Court, district courts and magistrate's courts between 1988 and 1993.

"This discrimination is not a matter of policy," said Rivka Meller-Olshitzky of the Israel Women's Network, which initiated the study. Instead, the findings reflect stereotypes that members of the legal profession are generally not aware of. The purpose of the study was to bring these to light so they could be corrected, she said.

Sentences tend to be very lenient for sexual offenses, in which most victims are women, the researchers found.

When the defendant is a

woman, it is harder for her than for a man to be acquitted on the basis of reasonable doubt. Women accused of very serious offenses are also judged more harshly than men.

Ironically, women judges — whether judging alone or in a panel — imposed lower sentences on those convicted of sexual offenses than on those convicted of bodily harm.

The researchers' findings found fault primarily with the lower courts, Meller-Olshitzky said. The Supreme Court suffers from less gender bias.

Meller-Olshitzky said Supreme Court President Aharon Barak responded to its findings by promising to set up a committee of judges to study ways to correct the bias it revealed.

Plastic surgeon reattaches baby's arm

By JUDY SIEGEL

The arm of a one-year-old Jericho baby, who was run over by a tractor while his parents were picking oranges, was recently successfully reattached by a surgeon at Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital.

The microsurgery, which is believed to have restored his ability to feel and move the limb, succeeded despite the fact that the infant's arm lacked blood supply for 10 hours.

The baby, Abed Saladich, arrived at Shaare Zedek about two weeks ago with only a flap of skin connecting the amputated right arm four centimeters below his shoulder.

He was first rushed by his parents to Ramallah Hospital, which has no microsurgery expert. After several hours without getting the appropriate treatment, he was taken by ambulance to Shaare Zedek.

Dr. Binyamina Rosenberg-Hagen, one of the country's four experts on microsurgery, per-



Abed Saladich recovers at Shaare Zedek Hospital on Tuesday after undergoing microsurgery. (Yoram Amir)

formed the operation, while cautiously looking through a microscope.

"The sutures are invisible to the human eye, and the needle we use is tiny," the surgeon said. "The

microscope magnifies the area 20 to 40 times. First we connect the pieces of bones so they don't move, and then painstakingly sew together the blood vessels, nerves, muscles, tendons and skin."

The results of reattaching limbs and digits are much more successful in children than adults, and even more so in infants than older children, she said. Successful surgery allows the limb to grow with the child, and restores the sense of feeling and ability to move the arm.

There are only about 50 cases of accidental amputation of limbs and digits in the country each year, the doctor noted.

The baby's parents, who had turned an orange crate into a baby bed in the field, were shocked by the injury and very grateful to the hospital for the treatment.

"We're very glad that the arm is recovering despite the very long period when it was without blood supply," Rosenberg-Hagen said. "This is very rare. We believe he'll be completely normal, and that the arm will look fine."

NEWS

in brief

High Court hears petition against Shaki

The High Court of Justice yesterday heard the Movement for Quality Government in Israel's petition for it to overrule former attorney-general Michael Ben-Yair's decision not to bring MK Avner Shaki (NRP) to trial. Justices Eliezer Goldberg, Yaacov Turkel and Tova Strasberg-Cohen are to give a decision.

The case involves three allocations made in 1990 by the ministerial committee on requests, of which Shaki, then-religious affairs minister, was a member. He recommended allocations totaling NIS \$20,000 to three insitutions run by his family members and political associates, without informing the committee of his connections to the institutions. Ilin

Remands extended in bribery case

Yishai Kraniel, 45, of Herzliya, Ya'acov Siviv, 45, of Ramat Gan, Mordechai Iluz, 38, of Jerusalem, and Doron Chen, 32, of Netanya, had their remands extended for a week by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday. Kraniel, Siviv and Iluz ran an accounting company, though none of them are accountants. They are accused of bribing income-tax officials, including Chen, to lower their tax assessments and provide them with classified information. Chen is accused of lowering their tax assessments by hundreds of thousands of shekels in exchange for thousands of shekels, as well as drugs. Ilin

Israel Prize winners in music named

The Israel Prize winners for musical scholarship this year are three prolific composers, Prof. Andre Hajdu, Prof. Abel Ehrlich, and Benzion Orgad, Education Minister Zevulun Hammer announced yesterday.

Hajdu is being honored for his tremendous contribution to Israeli music, the judges said. Ehrlich was noted as being "among the top ranks of Israeli composers for 50 years." Orgad is "one of Israel's leading composers, who has produced continuously since 1947," the committee noted in its decision. The works of the three have been performed here and abroad. Jerusalem Post Staff

Bus fares up

Public transportation fees will increase an average of 4 percent on March 1, in accordance with a government-approved biannual adjustment for inflation. However, the prices will be reduced on more than 100 intercity routes, to correct a discrepancy in fares that has arisen in the past few years. A bus ride in the Tel Aviv area, Jerusalem or Haifa will cost NIS 3.90, up from NIS 3.70, while in other towns and cities the fare will be NIS 3.30, up from NIS 3.20. Monthly bus passes in Jerusalem and Haifa will rise to NIS 156, and in Tel Aviv to NIS 144. The fare on the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv line will rise to NIS 16.50, from NIS 16. However, the price on the Jerusalem-Holon, Bat Yam and Petah Tikva lines will drop from NIS 19.50 to NIS 18.50. Jerusalem Post Staff

71-year-old becomes oldest kidney recipient

A 71-year-old man, whose kidneys were injured during army service, yesterday became the oldest Israeli to get a kidney transplant, according to the Rabin Medical Center-Beilinson Campus. The prognosis is good for the man, who has undergone dialysis for the past five years, the hospital said. Judy Siegal

Ministry pledges action on toxic waste dump

By LIAT COLLINS

Environment Ministry director-general Nehama Ronco yesterday told the Knesset Interior Committee that the ministry intended solving the problems of the Ramat Hovav toxic waste site within seven years, rather than the 13 years the standard plans call for.

"We are checking the possibility of incinerating large quantities of old hazardous materials at Ramat Hovav — hazardous materials which have been gathering there since the 1970s and no one knows what they contain. These materials today present a real threat," Ronen said.

The ministry has invited American experts to visit and prepare recommendations on the site near Beersheba.

Since the 1970s, hazardous materials have been stored in bar-

rels at Ramat Hovav. The ministry plans to incinerate 10,000 tons a year of waste at the site, though the environmental group Greenpeace has protested that incineration could cause air and soil pollution. The ministry says only incineration can deal with the huge quantities of waste.

Some 50,000 tons a year of toxic organic and non-organic waste a year reach Ramat Hovav. Estimates are that some 65,000 tons of organic waste are currently awaiting incineration.

Committee chairman Salah Tarif (Labor) described Ramat Hovav as "a time bomb which could go off and pollute large areas of the country." Kibbutz Revivim member Ram Galili told the MKs that local residents are scared of the situation and concerned that the body which operates the toxic waste site is the same body that monitors its work.

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Arson damages Warsaw synagogue

News agencies

WARSAW — An apparent arson attack early yesterday devastated part of Warsaw's only synagogue, arousing shock in a city whose Jewish population was murdered by Poland's Nazi invaders.

"I have seen synagogues go up in flames before... such events reopen wounds which had begun to heal a little," Poland's Chief Rabbi Menachem Joskowitz, who survived Auschwitz death camp, told a news conference.

Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski said it was an act of barbarism and vowed that such actions would be prosecuted with the full force of the law.

The fire destroyed two doors and blackened an entrance hall of the Nozyk synagogue, leaders of the congregation said.

The janitor was treated for inhaling fumes and "all indications suggest it was attempted arson," Konstanty Gebert, one of the synagogue's 1,000 members, told reporters.

Another man at the synagogue when the fire started around midnight was not hurt, Gebert said. The congregation received a bomb threat phone call two days before, he said.

There were 3.5 million Jews in Poland before World War II, but most were killed in the gas chambers of the Nazi death camps. Pawel Wildstein, leader of the Warsaw congregation, estimates that there are just over 10,000 Jews in Poland now.

Joskowitz said the fire damage was "a great loss" but he had no

estimate.

Two burned-out metal cans were found inside the vestibule and a sack of sawdust was lying outside the synagogue, Gebert said.

The cans were probably thrown in through a window over the unused main entrance door. The sand-colored, sparsely ornamented synagogue is usually entered through another door.

The simply-carved heavy wooden door at the main entrance, and another set of wooden doors were completely burned, and plaster fell off the blackened vestibule ceiling.

Founded by the Nozyk family in 1902, the synagogue stands in the former Jewish district of Warsaw, next to the state-run Jewish Theater.

During the war, the Nazis used it as a stable and then destroyed it. Communist authorities rebuilt it in 1983 and it has been used since.

Rabbi Michael Schudrich, head of the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation that sponsors programs to rebuild Jewish life and culture in Poland, said of the arson, "There are some elements in Poland who do not want to see democracy and pluralism blossom."

They will "not succeed in making us feel afraid that we are Jewish," he said, and appealed to "all good citizens of Warsaw" to join the congregation in prayer last night to show the "true heart, the true face of Poland." Radio stations broadcast the appeal.

"Our initial conclusions show the cause was probably arson," Warsaw police press officer Tomasz Grzelewski said.

"It had to be some inflammable substance thrown in through a

window over the entrance," he said, adding that it was too early to reveal theories about who was responsible.

The fire was spotted by an employee of a Jewish charity sleeping in a nearby building and by a policeman posted outside the Jewish Theater on a city square some meters away, who both summoned help.

Quick action by the fire brigade stopped the flames from engulfing the building's main prayer hall, they said.

Two days before the fire an anonymous telephone caller to the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation, a Jewish educational charity represented by Rabbi Schudrich, had threatened "a bomb has been planted or will be planted very soon." The synagogue stands only a few blocks from the site of the hellish Warsaw Ghetto.

Many thousands of Holocaust survivors later emigrated in waves, in part prompted by anti-Semitic episodes such as the 1946 pogrom in the city of Kielce and an "anti-Zionist" campaign launched by a faction of the Communist party in 1968.

While there are some tiny extremist groups hostile to minorities, all mainstream Polish parties condemn antisemitism and democratic governments since the 1989 fall of communism have sought to improve ties with Jews and Israel.

"Poles want to build good, friendly relations with Jews in Poland and around the world. Criminal behavior by individuals cannot disrupt this," Kwasniewski said in his statement.



A visitor photographs the damage caused by a fire at the Nozyk synagogue in Warsaw early yesterday.

He said the attack was especially painful to the Poles as it was aimed against a community that had lived in the country for 800 years before falling victim to genocide.

But some figures on the fringes of right-leaning parties have made

remarks insulting to Jews in recent years — notably Henryk Jankowski, a priest linked with the Solidarity union.

Jewish leaders said a failure by these parties and society to condemn such remarks strongly enough might create an atmosphere in which antisemitic attacks would be more likely.

"The remarks are met with deafening silence," Gebert, the editor of a Jewish monthly, said outside the synagogue.

A bomb last year smashed windows of Warsaw's kosher restaur-

US defense secretary's brother shoots man

BREWER, Maine (AP) — The brother of Defense Secretary William Cohen shot another man who was in the brother's home, police said yesterday.

Michael Chassie, 22, was wounded in the neck Tuesday night with a small-caliber handgun at the home of Robert Cohen, police said. Chassie was listed in fair condition yesterday at a local hospital.

"Right now, we're basically trying to determine whether the homeowner, Robert Cohen, was justified in using deadly force," Police Chief Steve Barker said.

Barker said police had not determined whether Chassie was an intruder in the ranch-style home.

"We're not contemplating charges against anyone at this point," the chief added.

At least two shots were fired,

though just one wound was found, police said.

Police said they had talked to Cohen but gave few other details in the shooting in a middle-class neighborhood in a town of 9,000 people.

The defense secretary was in Washington at the time. He and his wife attended a dinner Tuesday evening at the Corcoran Art Gallery in honor of Prince Sultan, the visiting Saudi defense minister. The event ended shortly before 10 p.m., or just about the time the shooting was reported.

William Cohen, who served Maine in the U.S. House and Senate for 24 years before announcing his retirement last year, won easy Senate confirmation as defense secretary in January.

Bus bombs in China kill 4

BEIJING (Reuters) — Three time-bombs planted on buses blew up in rapid succession in China's restive far west, killing at least four people and shattering the nation's calm in the delicate aftermath of the death of patriarch Deng Xiaoping.

Police patrolled streets and checked suspicious bags and packages yesterday in Urumqi, capital of the mainly Moslem region of Xinjiang, following the blasts in the city the previous evening.

"I think at least four to five people were killed, including one child who died instantly," said a Xinjiang television station official, who declined to be identified.

"People are full of fear, and the city is on high alert," said the TV station official.

Foreign Minister David Levy, who is visiting Beijing, said Chinese leaders expressed concern to him over the threat from

Islamic fundamentalism.

"I think we have a very similar view on this," Levy said.

"Every attempt to turn religion into a weapon becomes extremely dangerous, it is something that knows no boundaries," he said. "It is like sand, it can be transported by the wind from one place to another."

The blasts, which officials said injured at least 60, occurred within minutes in separate parts of the city, which is the center of Chinese control over the region and its ethnic Uighur population.

The explosions occurred on the same day as the final rites were being observed in far-off Beijing for Deng Xiaoping, the paramount leader who strictly enforced the integrity of China against separatist threats.

In an ironic twist, one bomb went off on Tuanjie (Unity) Street. A fourth was found before it detonated, a local official said.

Despite the widespread fear of further unrest, state media in Urumqi and elsewhere in the county have not reported the incidents.

"Everybody knows about it but nothing has been said officially," said a local resident contacted by telephone.

It was the first known violence in Xinjiang, a region that Moslem separatists call East Turkestan, since anti-Chinese riots in Yining on February 5 and 6 left nine people dead. No one claimed responsibility.

Xinjiang, bordering Afghanistan, Pakistan and three mostly Moslem Central Asian states, was shaken last year by attacks on officials and Moslem leaders regarded as pro-Beijing.

The bombs exploded around 6.40 p.m., the TV official said, "and people in Urumqi usually finish work at seven, so not many were injured or killed," the TV official said.

Antisemitic incidents in US continue decline

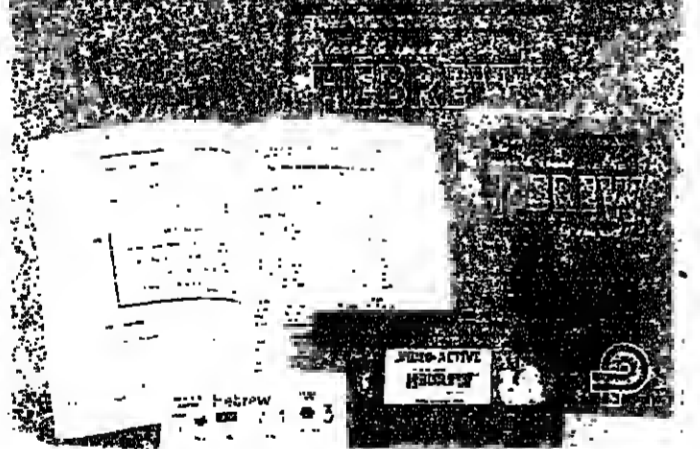
WASHINGTON — Antisemitic incidents in the US in 1996 declined for the second consecutive year and hit their lowest mark since 1990, according to an annual audit released yesterday by the Anti-Defamation League.

Among the 1,722 incidents were 941 cases of harassment, threats or assault, and 781 acts of vandalism. The latter included a bomb that went off at a Jewish center in New York, six arson attacks against Jewish property in five states and a BB-gun attack against worshippers at a Milwaukee synagogue.

The ADL released the report at a press conference at the National Press Club yesterday.

Compared to 1995, cases of harassment and the like declined by 175, while vandalism increased by 54. The drop "mirrors the continuing drop in crime that has been reported" to the authorities nation-

US defense secretary's brother shoots man



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Du Pont guilty but schizoid

MEDIA, Pennsylvania (AP) — Multimillionaire John E. du Pont has been found guilty of murder, but jurors spared him a possible life sentence, deciding that mental illness played a role in his fatal shooting of an Olympic wrestler.

The jurors decided after a week deliberating that du Pont committed third-degree murder, or murder with malice but without premeditated intent - but he was also mentally ill.

Four defense psychiatrists had testified that du Pont's mind was racked by paranoid schizophrenia, distorting his perception of reality and making him believe Schultz was an agent of an international conspiracy to kill him. He believed he was the Dalai

Lama, the Child Jesus, the president of Bulgaria and other grandiose figures.

The conviction means du Pont will likely spend time in a mental hospital and then begin serving a prison sentence of up to 20 to 40 years, if and when he is deemed cured. However, because du Pont has no prior record, he could be freed on parole after as little as five years in custody.

Judge Patricia Jenkins will hold a hearing to determine if du Pont should spend time in a mental hospital. The sentence also carries a \$50,000 fine.

Du Pont, 58, appearing in court with long, greasy, gray hair and a scraggly beard, stared dispassionately ahead when the verdict was read.



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Mostar simmers, top Bosnian criminal held

ZAGREB (AP) — The reputed crime lord of the Croat side of battered and divided Mostar has been arrested, police said yesterday.

Word of the arrest followed demands by international officials that three Bosnian Croat police officers be arrested in a shooting attack on Muslims in Mostar.

International investigators blamed Bosnian Croat police for firing shots into a group of several hundred Moslem pilgrims seeking to visit a cemetery in the Croat-controlled part of town. One Moslem was killed and about 20 were wounded in one of the worst incidents of ethnic violence since the 1995 Dayton peace accord.

The detention of the notorious Miladen Nalculic, known by the *nom de guerre* Tuta, in Croatia appeared to be a signal from Croatian authorities that they would crack down on the Mostar mafia. The mafia is widely blamed by international officials for the bitter division in that city.

Western diplomats have long urged Croatia to take such action. But some suspect his arrest was for show and he would be quietly released when international pressure dies down.

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Introducing... organic socks

Israeli farmers are producing an increasing array of organically grown goods from wine to clothing - and, yes, even socks. Allison Ofanansky reports

The scent of warm whole-wheat bread fills the bakery at Kibbutz Harduf as they open the ovens to pull out the morning's thousand loaves. Nearby, workers milk the cows and make fresh butter. Outside, the Mediterranean breeze blows through the fields of wheat nourished by the natural bounty of the sheep shed.

The entire operation at Harduf Organic Products - from the bread and butter to whole-wheat pasta and soup mixes - is done without the use of chemical pesticides, fertilizers, hormones or antibiotics.

Fifteen years ago, a handful of people began the kibbutz as the country's first all-organic farm. They started by planting wheat and baking a few dozen loaves of bread at a time.

"Today we are baking between two and three thousand loaves a day," said Avital Kalgrad, who has worked at Harduf since 1983. "It's only in the last two years that there has been what you could really call a market for organic products in Israel. And every year it's growing." Across the country, in the past two years, the number of duoms being farmed organically grew from 2,700 to over 4,000.

All organic produce in Israel, for export or for sale here, is certified by the Israel Bio-Organic Agriculture Association. The

organization was born from the efforts of one man, Mario Levy, who came to Palestine in 1939 and in 1955 he helped found the religious kibbutz Sde Eliyah.

"I began to see that conventional agriculture worked against nature and was harmful to people," said Levy. "But I don't think it's worthwhile to talk too much about the dangers chemical agriculture poses. We just want to do what we know is right, to show that our way is a good way to farm, and other people will see and come join us."

And they have. In the mid-'70s, Levy convinced his kibbutz to give him 200 dunams to try organic farming. "Everyone thought I was crazy," Levy said. But from that 200-dunam vegetable patch grew a nation-wide movement that now includes over 300 farms, moshavim and kibbutzim.

Every year, Levy said, the demand for organic food grows and every year more farmers contact his organization to learn how to produce it. In 1996, almost 100 farmers took IBOAA's one-week introductory course.

ORGANIC AGRICULTURE is not new in Israel. In fact, only recently did chemical pesticides and fertilizers come into widespread use. "Our forefathers in biblical times used organic methods. So did the settlers of the



Kibbutz Harduf, the country's first organic farm.

(James Levine)

19th and 20th centuries," said Meir Lipshatz of Sde Eliyah, the kibbutz that reintroduced organic agriculture to modern Israel. "Then came the agricultural revolution that brought wonderful results. At first,

Decades of chemical use, according to organic farmers, have produced abundant crops with long shelf lives. They have also leached salts and nitrates into the groundwater, poisoned wildlife and, ironically, created

pesticide-resistant insects, necessitating greater quantities of more potent poisons.

"Every year we spray and still some insects remain on the fruit," said Zohar Barkay, who manages both conventional and

organic citrus groves in Kibbutz Dan in Upper Galilee. "And the next generation is more resistant."

In 1987 he started the process of converting some of his orchards to organic production. Fields must be free of chemical pesticides and fertilizers for three years before their produce can be sold as certified organic.

This transition is difficult for farmers because they must use the more expensive and time-consuming organic methods, yet they can only sell their crops at the lower price of conventional produce.

Instead of spraying pesticides, Barkay uses heavy oils to coat the fruit, hangs glue-covered boards with insect-attracting scents in the trees and releases millions of specially bred predatory bugs.

Barkay said he loses almost 30 percent of his crop to insects - approximately the same percentage as he loses in his commercial crops. Some of the damaged fruit is made into juice or is sold to local markets.

While local demand is starting to grow, the wealthier markets in Europe remain the primary destination for most of these crops, which can cost almost twice the price of regular fruits and vegetables.

"It's a lot of extra work," Barkay said. "In my regular fields, I just turn a knob and all the fertilizer goes right to the trees with the water. For these, I have to buy organic compost, which is expensive, and put it down by hand, tree by tree."

Barkay pointed out trees with leaves yellow from magnesium deficiency and fruit scarred by insects. "We have to experiment all the time to find out how to deal with these problems," he

said. Experiments are expensive and losing even a few trees can be hard on a small farmer.

Several of Israel's agricultural research centers, along with the ministries of Agriculture and Environment, are funding experiments to help solve the problems faced by organic farmers. "Our research into organic agriculture is part of our general effort to try to minimize the use of chemicals in all agriculture," said Dr. Dan Levanon, chief scientist of the Ministry of Agriculture.

"We know that chemical fertilizers applied to fields contaminate the aquifers," said Jan Martin Bang, co-founder of the Green Kibbutz Group.

"If in 50 years we have polluted all our potable water, we don't have the maturity to run a country."

AS KNOWLEDGE and experience grows and the market expands, farmers are trying their hand at different kinds of organic crops.

A company called Magi Organic recently started marketing socks made from organically grown cotton. Kibbutz Samar in the Arava grows organic dates, with donkeys grazing between the palms to keep down weeds.

Kibbutz Dan set up 100 hives where the bees can suck pollen from unsprayed wildflowers, said their main honey-man Ami Maimaise.

Sde Eliyah is producing organic grape juice and the Golan Winery, which bottles it, is starting a batch of organic wine, due to be out in a few years.

"Very soon, supermarkets in Israel will start demanding organic food," said Bang, "and we will be hard pressed to supply it."

FLAIR

New ways to freshen up

By GREEN FAY CASHMAN

In tandem with fashion's revisiting of the Sixties and Seventies, bouffant hairstyles are coming back into vogue. Veteran hairdressers, who remember the beehive era will tell you that squeaky-clean hair may be fine for Sara Netanyahu, who likes to wash hers every day, but for styles that require a lot of body, hair should be dirty. But it shouldn't look dirty. That's why mousses and creams used to add sheen and hold styles are becoming increasingly popular for home as well as salon use.

Of the good brands, which are consumer conscious in price as well as quality, Wella is way ahead. Wellalorm Classic Hairdressing Cream, used sparingly, gives hair form and shine. A 100-ml. tube sells for NIS 22.85, a 350-ml. jar for NIS 45.90.

There is ever bigger news in the beauty business - in skin-care products. So it is no surprise that Soft Touch has branched into that field. Its Interact line packages two products in a single container, which allows you to squeeze

out the right amount of both at the same time. One duo is called Nutrimoist, combining Nitroxigen Cream with Alpha Moisture Gel, retailing at NIS 99. Pureclean contains Hydrophylic Make-Up Remover Cream with Hydrophylic Gel Cleanser priced at NIS 65, and Eyelift, priced at NIS 95, combines Anti-wrinkle Alpha Cream and Firming Control Eye Gel.

All the products in the range are hypo-allergenic, free of alcohol and made with fruit extracts and avocado seeds.

Cloique also recommends combination products, but in a different format. Its products formulated to attack aging and sun damage come in separate jars, with "Daily Double" recommendations such as Turnaround Cream for Dry Skin to be used in combination with Moisture On-line or Turnaround Cream with Moisture on Call, or Turnaround Oil-Free Lotion and Moisture Surge Treatment Formula.

Fighting wrinkles is the challenge of all skin-treatment companies, and the veteran French upmarket Guerlain label is running neck and ock with every-

one else in the pack. Goerlain's latest offering is Issima Success Night, a firming anti-wrinkle night cream with A.C.L. restructuring complex and vitamin C which, the firm claims, combine to accelerate collagen fiber renewal. Its smoothing effect supposedly becomes visible after several weeks, but it takes a NIS 498 investment for a 50-ml. jar to find out if it really works.

FOR BUSY women who want to refresh their faces before the next appointment, there is Jeanne Plaubert's fresh, tangy and cool Aromatic Toning Mist. This important addition to one's purse can also be used as a cleanser. Although NIS 129 is steep for a 250-ml. bottle, bear in mind that a tiny dab does the trick.

Do you have a daughter who has just finished her army training or her first year at university? Make her day with a simulated nappa applicator and brush container pouch from Mula Team. The pouch has room for 12 brushes for different applications.

The brushes can be purchased individually at prices ranging from NIS 18 to NIS 65.

CAVEAT EMPTOR!

By RUTHIE BLUM

Riding a taxi in this country can be a fascinating sociological experience.

Where consumerism is concerned, however, cab culture is still way down there in the gutter.

According to one Jerusalemite who wrote this column, the Transport Ministry is at least trying to improve such services - proof of which lies in the assistance and encouragement she received after submitting a complaint to the ombudsman.

One evening, W.E. exited the Israel Museum in Jerusalem with three "very young, very tired, very hungry, very ready-to-go-home" children in tow, and stood at the taxi stand to wait for a cab to escort her and her brood home to Gilo.

Shortly after, a taxi pulled up to the curb, and the family got in. "That'll be 30 shekels," announced the driver. "Put the meter on," answered an irritated W.E., who knew that the fare shouldn't come to more than 20.

"Forget it," responded the cabie as he banished W.E. and her kids from his precious chariot.

Just then, some tourists approached the oow unoccupied vehicle and requested to be taken to the center of town.

They, too, were told by the cabie that the fare would be NIS 30. At this point, W.E. intervened, warning the unsuspecting travelers that they were about to be rooked by the dishonest driver.

The cabie was so annoyed with W.E. for cramping his style, that when another cab pulled up to the curb 20 minutes later he signaled to the other driver not to take her into his cab.

Luckily for W.E. and her cranky kids, the second driver paid no attention to the first.

The next day, W.E. sent a written description (in English) of her unpleasant experience to the complaints department of the Ministry of Transportation.

Three months later the ministry responded, and W.E.'s file got under way. Nearly two years after the incident, the nasty cab driver is about to be fined between NIS 2,000 and NIS 10,000!

According to W.E., though the process was slow, the ministry behaved responsibly and exhibited genuine determination to "go

after dishonest cabbies."

Transport Ministry Ombudswoman Orit Hayune admits that speedier procedures would lead to far more convictions against taxi drivers. "Too many cases end up getting dropped before they're even completed being investigated," she said.

"The fact is that most people lose interest or don't have the patience to continue involvement in a case which can drag on for up to two years. And without the full cooperation of the plaintiff, there is no case."

Hayune understands why many dissatisfied customers don't stick it out as steadfastly as W.E. For most, it's just not worth the bother.

"This is why we are now trying to make the whole process more efficient," Hayune stressed. "It really is in all our interests to make sure that public transportation serves the public the way it is supposed to."

Anyone wishing to complain about faulty taxi services should write to the Ministry of Transportation, Traffic Supervision Department, at one

of the addresses listed below (depending on the region in which the incident you wish to complain about took place):

Tel Aviv and the central region: 8 Rehov Hamelacha, Tel Aviv, 67150; Tel: (03) 565-7199.

Jerusalem and the South: 97 Jaffa Road, (Clal Building), Jerusalem, 94342; Tel: (02) 531-9550.

Haifa and the North: 121 Jaffa Road, Haifa, 35252; Tel: (04) 853-6711.

When submitting a complaint, try to give as many details about the taxi, the driver, and the incident as possible.

Note the date and time of the incident, the name and/or description of the driver, the license number of the taxi and/or the number appearing on the little "box" on the roof of the cab, and/or color and make of the vehicle. Include, if possible, the receipt, and names and addresses of witnesses.

You are invited to offer personal stories about goods and services in this country. Write to: Ruthie Blum, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

BARGAIN BASEMENT

BOOKSHELVES - 6 white formica shelves with 2 iron stands at either end plus 1 in the middle. NIS 100. 02-683-6374.

PHONE MATE ANSWERING MACHINE - 2-line capability, NIS 250. 02-523-3418.

WASHING MACHINE - Zohar, working condition. NIS 350. 02-534-5739.

CRIB - NIS 225; infant car seat, Century, NIS 130. 09-765-1175.

BMX BICYCLE - as new, NIS 250. 09-854-0872, even, NS.

WEAR & ATOMEMENT - Chain Pierce, including cuttings from 1988. NIS 50. The Lotus and the Robber by Koestler, NIS 20. 04-824-2207.

TYPEWRITER - Hermes Regent, very good condition, not portable, needs new ribbon, NIS 85. 09-882-7449.

MOUNTAIN BIKE - almost new, 18-speed, Shimano Index Derailleur, NIS 280; electric kettle, NIS 65. 08-865-4599.

BABY CAR SEAT - for back seat, NIS 75; baby walker on wheels, NIS 75. 09-833-8850.

COSTUME PATTERNS - animals, cloths, Superman - most never used, various children's sizes, NIS 12 each. 02-852-4420.

FURINA CARDS FROM YAD SARAI - NIS 18 pays for a gift basket to a needy old person. 02-644-4425, or 43 Hanevi'im St.

GAS ALARM - carbon monoxide detector, hardly used, NIS 60. 02-653-6943, NS.

WRITE AND PINK CUPBOARD - for girl's room, NIS 350. 02-582-0269.

MAPLE DRESSER - good condition, NIS 350. 02-585-0794, NS.

ANSWERING MACHINE - Panasonic Ecophone, mint condition, NIS 175. 02-672-2607, NS.

INTERNAL FAX/MODEM - 14.4 KB, Cardinal Technologies, NIS 150; fine printer, Teletype Corp, NIS 100; keyboard for PC/XT, NIS 30. 02-566-3567, NS.

ELECTRIC BROOM - AEG, Israel electricity, like new, NIS 200; Sigma

Super Zoom camera, needs repair, NIS 25; transformer, 220V to 110V, NIS 30. 02-566-9577.

RAINCOAT - light green, like new, smart, size S/M, NIS 100; light blue raincoat, like new, smart, size S/M, NIS 100. 02-535-1975, NS.

L.A. GEAR GIRLS' SPORT SHOES - white, new, size 36, NIS 80; L.A. Gear boys' sports shoes, white, new, size 30, NIS 75. 02-571-0206, NS.

COSMETICS - 3 lipsticks, 4 nail polishes - in shades of pink; 6 eye-shadow sets; blue and black eye pencils, never opened, NIS 100. 02-656-0704.

MEN'S LARGE JACKET - navy, with hood, almost new, lots of pockets, warm, NIS 250. 02-566-3567.

COLOR TV - 24", NIS 350. 02-671-6316.

STEREO SYSTEM - Fisher record player and tuner, Harmon/Kardon tape deck, very good condition, NIS 350. 02-641-3377, NS.

KENWOOD HEATER - Toyomat portable, model ML 21, hardly used. 02-651-0319, NS.

MINI-DISHWASHER - Super Pony, new dish rack, great condition, white, measures 45x49x56, NIS 333. 02-586-6194, NS.

3 CALORIC IGNITORS - round, one almost new, both for NIS 200. 02-993-1410, NS.

SOFA BED - 70 cm. wide, olive green, NIS 100; Ray Ban Aviator Sunglasses, medium size, NIS 150. 02-561-7424, NS.

CASSUTO BIBLE - complete, perfect condition, NIS 350. 02-651-1932, NS.

WEIGHT-LIFTING EQUIPMENT - including barbells, dumbbells & 80 kg free weights with bench, NIS 350. 02-561-7986.

COLOR TV - 29" - 050-379898.

I'M ONLY FOUR FRET IT! - book by Esther Schriessel, NIS 37. 02-569-8878, NS.

WOOL - machine cones, full-sized, NIS 30; remaining, inc. pure Shetland, cotton, & others, NIS 25 for 750 gms. Shukamit. 02-535-1646, NS.

ANTIQUE CHAIR - NIS 75; stool, small, complete with decorations, NIS 95. 02-535-2430, NS.

BI-FI SYSTEM - double tape/radio, sophisticated equalizers, 2 huge 3-way

speakers in cabinet on wheels, NIS 350. 052-652420.

VACUUM CLEANER - very good condition, NIS 250. 02-672-2156.

PANASONIC ANSWERING MACHINE - like new, NIS 350. 02-566-3606.

ELECTRIC JUICER - large, AEG, new in box, NIS 350. 02-651-8662.

CORDLESS GE TELEPHONE - NIS 350; Cobra cordless phone, needs batteries, NIS 100. 02-597-4498.

GLASS-TOP DINING TABLE - seats 8, NIS 350. 02-625-0487, NS.

DISHWASHER - Amcor, 48x56x46 cm., needs repair, NIS 350. 02-673-1297, NS.

SANTO STEREO RECEIVER - in good condition, NIS 35. Learn 71st.

EXERCISE BICYCLE - with speedometer, timer, 20" wheel, MCA brand, excellent condition, NIS 300. 02-582-2539.

WEBSTER'S DICTIONARY OF QUOTABLE DEFINITIONS - new, for writers, speakers, teachers, NIS 54. 02-993-5118, NS.

"POST 180 REMEMBERS" - exciting and humorous stories from United States armed forces since World War II to Desert Storm, NIS 22. 02-671-8564, NS.

DOUBLE TAPE DECK/RADIO - detachable speakers, in perfect condition, NIS 150. 02-563-2871.

TABLE FAN - NIS 50, desert cooler, NIS 150; Fisher Price booster seat, NIS 30. 02-656-2229.

HOCKEY SKATES - boys' black, Bauer International Canada, size 7D (US), NIS 75; Bausch & Lomb saline spray, Lysol and disinfecting solution, NIS 100. 02-566-5763, NS.

KENWOOD MIXER/BLENDER - perfect condition, NIS 150; Braun Juice Extractor, NIS 50; electric crepe maker, NIS 50. 02-625-1374.

SALINE 1207 - NIS 35; Adesep 12/8oz, NIS 352; Centrum vitamins, NIS 70; tampons 48/32, NIS 45/30. 02-566-1632, NS.

PENNY LOAFERS - Dexter, women's 9M, new, NIS 225. 02-581-4430.

AIR PURIFIER & IONIZER - Mountain Breeze F-800, NIS 350. 02-563-7107.

TEPAL TURBOGLASS 500 STEAM

IRON - very powerful, used once, NIS 325. 02-582-1157, NS.

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BLACK FABRIC POCKET BOOK - 7 compartments, large, new, NIS 40. 02-563-0812, NS.

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CHROMEX OIL-FILLED ELECTRIC RADIATOR - hardly used, perfect condition, NIS 300. 02-671-9539.

IBM SELECTRIC TYPEWRITER - NIS 150; National Geographic, NIS 3 each; nuzco, medium, NIS 120. 02-656-5515, NS.

COUNTERTOP GAS RANGE - 2 burners, NIS 150; new, NIS 320. 02-672-0217.

HAMSTER CAGE - round bottom, 2 floors & running wheels, 2 food trays, water bottle and house, NIS 110. 02-656-2083.

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C. Kloetzel, 8 Ovadia St. Jlm 95509.

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HOME MOVIE PROJECTOR - for 8mm & super-8 film, 220 V, in good working condition; editor-viewer. 09-957-0433.

HALF-SIZED VIOLIN - preferably hand-made. 04-837-8228, NS.

FILE CABINET - either 2- or 4-drawer, to purchase. 04-833-0764.

"NATIONAL LAMPPOON" - copies from 1993-1995. 02-730-0272.

CLEANER & FLOOR POLISHER - 09-958-2070.

CARPET - old but handmade, to buy, in any condition. 03-527-0397, NS.

SAFE - office furniture, Jewish books in English or Russian, needed by ASCENT non-profit outreach organization, will pay reasonable prices. 05-692-1364.

TRAVEL COMPANION - for mother with 2 small children. Wed. night, April 9, El Al to NY. Willing to pay. 02-563-5297.

SECOND-HAND PRINTER - excellent condition, IBM compatible. 02-993-1893.

TELESCOPE/MICROSCOPE - turtle for kids. 02-671-0020, NS.

SOMEONE TO HELP FIX - Canon English gas cooker. 02-535-2316.

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CRIB - to buy. 02-581-7127.

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Proper review

The controversy surrounding Har Homa has reached all the way to the United Nations in New York, where the Security Council voted unanimously on Tuesday to summon David Peleg, Israel's temporary representative to the UN, to explain Israel's plan to build the Jewish neighborhood in southeastern Jerusalem. Whether the UN discussion of Har Homa is legitimate is a matter of opinion, but there is one aspect of the Security Council's action that should disturb Israel—Jerusalem's lack of a permanent representative to the UN. Israel has not had a permanent representative for nearly a year, since Gad Ya'acobi left the post.

The selection of UN ambassador, considered a diplomatic position of major sensitivity as well as a "plum" job to have, has been interminably delayed due to a disagreement between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Foreign Minister David Levy over who will make the appointment. Meanwhile, the post remains vacant, to Israel's detriment.

Last week, Levy won a similar political tug-of-war on appointments to a number of other vacant diplomatic posts, naming persons close to him to positions such as consul-general in New York, and ambassadors to England and South Africa. The appointment to Pretoria raised some eyebrows, because the job went to one of Levy's longtime associates, Uri Oren, who was the object of scathing criticism for his poor performance in his last Levy-connected foreign service appointment, as Israeli consul-general in Los Angeles from 1992-1994. Last week, leaders of several Jewish organizations in Los Angeles, asking not to be quoted, made negative comments about Oren's "non-performance" in the post.

With the Bar-On affair, which centers around a political appointment, the time has come to review this practice in this country. To be sure, the Bar-On affair, involving allegations of individuals in criminal trials attempting to take

over the office of the attorney-general, dwarfs all other controversial political appointments. But the main charges being investigated in the Bar-On affair are breach of trust, of politicians ignoring the trust which the public has placed in their hands to appoint only the most qualified of candidates to important public offices.

There is a compelling argument that the political echelon should maintain control over a number of appointments, because certain public offices require implementing and defending government policies. There is an equally compelling argument that these positions should not be granted solely based on political affiliation because of the damage that unqualified persons in those positions can inflict on us all.

There need not be a contradiction here, as long as appointments are subject to clear criteria and proper review. In the United States, for example, all appointments of a sufficiently high rank require the approval of congressional committees. The president still manages to appoint those affiliated with him and his policies, but the very fact that candidates will potentially appear before an inquiring congressional committee serves to weed out blatantly unqualified individuals.

Suggestions that Knesset committees be granted similar roles in Israel have been raised. The Netanyahu government would do well to take these suggestions seriously. The fact that its all-round performance to date is almost universally considered to be very poor is due in no small part to its predilection for valuing loyalty and political affiliation to the exclusion of other qualities in its political appointments. That is the reason the Prime Minister's Office is seeking its third director in nine months and the Bar-On appointment is threatening to bring down the government. By agreeing to subject its appointments to review, the government will force itself to make better selections, doing both itself and the nation a favor.

Hello, Dolly

This week we have seen the future, and it bleats. Dolly the Scottish sheep looks like any other sheep—she does not have six legs, two heads or a human brain trapped behind her dim expression, as she might if she were merely a character in an X-Files episode. Nonetheless, judging by the vast international debate that has erupted, she has profoundly shaken scientists, moral philosophers, and public opinion.

We rarely are aware how rapidly real science follows hard on the heels of science fiction until an American organization lands a man on the moon—or a Scottish one clones a sheep. As the event hits the news, the moral guardians of our collective ethics scramble in panic for their texts and clichés. So it was with the evolution, with space travel, with heart transplants, with the Internet. Here we go again with genetic engineering.

The question about a technique such as cloning is not whether it is against natural law, but whether it ought to be against the laws society erects in the interests of survival and regulation of the species. Cloning of food sources promises immense benefits for mankind just as most scientific leaps into the dark have had untold benefits for even the poorest members of world society. Without genetic engineering,

India's green revolution would never have rescued its people from eternal cycles of famine and misery.

The reason we fear the sinister side of science is that we know if something terrible can be done with it—it will be done, whether it is by a Hitler or a Saddam Hussein, or a cult putting sarin gas in the Tokyo subway. The Nazis gave genetic engineering a taint it may never lose, as Stalin and Mao gave to social engineering. Likewise, Huxley's *Brave New World* portrayed a fascist utopia, 1984 a socialist one.

In the case of cloning, eternal vigilance is what is needed. Despite the hype, most reasonable people may see few purely ethical problems with the cloning of animals. But the possible cloning of humans poses, at the very least, huge legal and social challenges even without the "mad scientist" idea of cloning Hitlers or master races. What if a parent wants to clone a child or a spouse who has died?

It is not the scientists or democratic lawmakers who pose the threat. If anyone wants to clone copies of themselves, we can guarantee it will be the most stupid or twisted members of society—not the most intelligent or concerned. Cloning must be regulated and licensed by practical, workable laws, just as brain surgery is.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE

Sir, — I am so grateful for the article by Stewart Weiss in your February 18 edition, "A grotesque portrait." Nowhere have I seen it put more clearly. It may be sad and painful for him to spell it out, but never has it been more necessary. No longer can we see the sweet, kind face of our rabbis preaching tolerance and compassion for all Jewish people. They have been marginalized by the small, vociferous, intolerant, power-chasing clique that we now see and hear everywhere.

Speak out, Stewart Weiss, before we lose even more of our Jewish souls and before the people who think that they know everything really clash with the people who believe in nothing, with the shattered silent majority, holding fast to traditional Judaism, sadly caught, unprepared, and unrepresented, in the middle.

LENNIE MAXWELL
Herzliya.

"IN MEMORY'S KITCHEN"

Sir, — As a survivor of Theresienstadt, Auschwitz and Stutthof, I must take exception to the comments of Efraim Zurorf, director of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Israel, regarding the book *In Memory's Kitchen* as reported by you on February 14.

When my daughter, who lives in New York, sent me this book, I was terribly touched. I had always told my children about the time when in the camps sitting with the older women, I spent hours listening to them discuss favorite recipes and thinking about happier times. The exchange of recipes was a way of retaining our sanity at a time when the present was a nightmare and the future a dream.

Zurorf has missed the point; he has trivialized a monumental work. The descriptions, stories and poems in this book have immortalized these courageous and ordinary housewives.

LUCY MANDELSTAM
Hadera.

LOSS OF CREDIBILITY

Sir, — On January 22, Evelyn Gordon reported that Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi had stated, regarding the Palestinian Authority's failure to extradite terrorists, that he would recommend that the government take no further steps to implement the Oslo Accords, unless the PA begins fulfilling this part of the agreement. Mr. Hanegbi is reported as saying: "I plan to request the extradition of the murderers of Eta and Ephraim Tzur soon, and if this request is not acceded to, I will demand a unilateral freeze on all negotiations with the Palestinians."

It would be illuminating to learn whether since making this statement, Mr. Hanegbi has in fact made the above recommendation to the government and demand of the PA, and if not, why not?

If Mr. Hanegbi and the government wish to avoid total loss of credibility, they must live up to their declarations of intent. The public does not forget.

BEN SHUA
Jerusalem.

MOTORCYCLIST'S DEATH

Sir, — I read with great sadness about the death of the young motorcyclist who died when he ran into the car door which a motorist had just opened. Every day, I see motorcyclists weaving in and out of traffic, speeding, passing on the right as well as the left, going up onto the sidewalk and generally ignoring the rules of the road. When you add to that picture motorists who do the

same thing and the fact that motorcyclists have so little protection and are hard to see, it is a recipe for disaster and it is a wonder there aren't more deaths. I blame the instructors as much as the drivers, as I have seen countless lines of "lameds" being taught to do the same things by their instructors.

Maybe the rules of the road are different here from in the United

States, where motorcyclists have to follow the same rules as motorists. If so, they should be changed before there are more deaths. I've been telling my son for years (he is now 15) that if I had anything to say about it, he would only ride a motorcycle "over my dead body." Better mine than his.

KATHY SALMANSON
Jerusalem.



Sisters in strength & spirit

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

Back in October 1994, we hailed lifetime Labor party stalwart Drora Shenk as "a woman of valor," whose value was indeed "far above rubies."

A founder of Kibbutz Merom Hagolan, Shenk went on hunger strike for 19 days to protest the Labor government's plan to return the Golan to Syria. "Yitzhak Rabin lied when he told me personally that he would never withdraw from the Golan, an area rich in Jewish history," Shenk told us then. "He betrayed me long before we spoke by agreeing with the Syrians that he would hand them the entire area. He betrayed the rest of the country too, despite his pre-election promises... He lost touch with the driving force of Zionism that created Israel."

Shenk, who expressed herself with a passionate intensity worthy of her biblical namesake, the prophet Deborah, lost eight kg. during her fast.

Today we focus on Shenk's sister-in-spirit, a woman who is no less courageous, no less outspoken on behalf of her Zionist faith.

True, 31-year-old Nadia Matar, who lives in Efrat with her husband and four young children, hasn't lost eight kilos since becoming leader of Women in Green four years ago. She has, however, been jailed eight times for demonstrating not only against surrendering the Golan, but Judea and Samaria as well.

Once she was beaten up by police and flung into a cell overnight, together with prostitutes and drug addicts, after being refused a doctor to treat her two broken ribs.

Like Shenk, Matar went to war against the prime minister she voted for.

Politically, the women are far apart. In other ways, they share much. Both are raising young families, yet have the pulsating motivation and energy to go to the barricades to defend their Zionist principles.

With an eerie exactitude, they use the same words to assail national leaders they perceive as having betrayed the trust invested in them. Both are heroines in Israel.

A month ago, Matar led a protest by Women in Green outside the home of Binyamin Netanyahu. "You promised, we believed. You betrayed," they accused him.

Comments Matar: "Netanyahu is weak, incompetent and a non-leader. He's surrounded by a small clique of cronies and unable, or unwilling, to cooperate with most of his other ministers."

As result of the premier's abandoning of nationalist ideology, Matar adds, other Likud ministers like coalition chairman Michael Eitan and Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi have also jettisoned past

convictions.

Her scorn is directed especially at Hanegbi, who supported surrendering Hebron, even though his mother lives in nearby Kiryat Arba. Yasser Arafat now regards that entire area as his fiefdom. "What is astonishing," Matar says, "is the blindness of Rabin, Peres and Netanyahu while being outmaneuvered by Arafat. Arafat has studied Jewish history, and apes the way the Israelites conquered the country on their return from Egypt by first seizing

There are women who believe they can sway public opinion by sheer force of will — and dare anyone to stop them

Jericho." "Because of Jericho's symbolism, Arafat insisted on being handed the city on a plate, together with Gaza, as a first part of the Oslo accords. Hebron was his next target, as David was crowned king there 3,000 years ago. The PLO chief made a big deal of taking over Bethlehem too — David's birthplace.

"At this very moment, the PLO chief is organizing a 'Next Year in Jerusalem' festival to coincide with Pessah. This is Arafat mocking the Jews in the battle to control Jerusalem.

In response to hundreds of appeals from people "despairing at the way the politicians are giving away the country," Matar was scheduled to take part in a meeting and demonstration in Jerusalem last night, together with other organizations. They aim to fight the division of Jerusalem and the surrender of more of Judea and Samaria, as well as the Golan.

"We are going to start demonstrating seriously again," says Matar. "The Women in Green are setting up branches all over the country, as people tell us how bitterly disillusioned they are with Netanyahu."

A few weeks ago, Matar helped establish a large chapter in Netanya. "We have more members now than even at the height of our campaign against Rabin and Peres," she notes.

How does she react to people who tell her that protesting is a waste of time?

"Judaism says nobody will

guarantee that what you undertake will succeed. But neither do you have the right to sit back and do nothing," says Matar. "I really believe that we can sway public opinion."

"The first time we demonstrated in Tel Aviv, we were met by indifference. People even spat at us. But after the terrorist bombings, particularly at Dizengoff Center, we were as warmly greeted there as we always are in Jerusalem.

"Our sages teach that if a woman is being raped, and is capable of screaming and does so with all her might, her story will be believed. If she remains passive and mute, there will always be suspicion that she was at least partially an accomplice to the act.

"It isn't always easy demonstrating and organizing almost full-time," Matar says. "I could never do it without the total support of my husband and the rest of my family." The worst moments, she says, are always at the beginning of every single demonstration.

"My parents say the first word I ever uttered was 'Israel' — even before I said 'Mommy,'" Matar recalls. "Never in my worst nightmares as a young girl dreaming of living here did I envisage demonstrating against a government in Israel carrying out anti-Zionist policies.

Now that Women in Green are about to take a more vigorous stance against the present administration, Matar fears that the police may resort to a policy of violence again.

Does the possibility of being put in prison again deter her?

"Friends and family say they will look after my children," says Matar. "This has always been my major worry; now I feel free to continue the struggle against Israel's dismantling."

She adds: "The physical blows all over my body hurt, of course. Very much. But far, far worse, is the pain of seeing a burly Jewish policeman feel it necessary to lash out at me physically. Not just at me, but at other women, many elderly." Matar recalls her mother-in-law Ruth being knocked senseless, and dragged away by her feet.

She concludes: "I feel certain that, in the end, we will see justice done. The Jews have known bad times in the past; this is such a period.

"I know that if we keep faith with our ideals and our religion, we will see better days. It's like the turning of a wheel."

"We need to be strong. And that is what I strive to be."

The writers are authors of *The Mossad: Secrets of the Israel Secret Service and other books on the Middle East*.

PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



He probably did it because it was there: Norway's Borge Onslund pulls a sled past Mount Erebus, four kilometers from New Zealand's Scott Base. Onslund, 34, arrived at the base on the Pacific coast of Antarctica after a two-month trek, becoming the first person to cross the icy continent alone and unaided.

O.J. America

ADAM DODEK

As Israelis mourned the horrible loss of life in the helicopter accident earlier this month, Americans celebrated the verdict in the O.J. Simpson civil trial.

For the second time, the climax in this American drama just happened to coincide with a solemn day in Israel. Sixteen months ago, jurors in O.J. Simpson's criminal trial returned a verdict of not guilty as Israelis observed Yom Kippur.

Americans' obsession with O.J. Simpson is likely to ebb; indeed it has already begun to do so. But the lessons of the O.J. experience are worth reflecting on, for they provide insight into the American mind-set, and into the contrast between life in Israel and life in the US.

Israel is a country whose citizens so value the right to vote that some residing abroad return home to vote in elections. America is a country where more people watched police chase an ex-football star down the Los Angeles freeway than bothered to vote for the president of their country. President Clinton narrowly escaped being eclipsed by O.J. mania.

The president avoided embarrassment by concluding his State of the Union address before the networks turned to live coverage of the announcement of the O.J. verdict. For some stations, the president did not finish quickly enough; they cut coverage of his address in favor of O.J. commentary.

In any case, Americans are unlikely to know the contents of the president's proposed budget. However, they are certain to know the contents of the jury's verdict.

A country that has become so self-absorbed with the O.J. soap opera has either no problems, or far too many.

Are things so good for Americans that they can focus

Americans once strove to excel. Now they just want entertainment. Are Israelis emulating them?

their energies on the folly of the O.J. Simpson trial? To many Israelis it would appear so.

ISRAELIS can only dream of the day when the single most pressing issue is a Derr trial; a time when they will not be concerned about sending their boys into Lebanon, or about what the future holds with the Palestinians. Or the Syrians. Or Hamas...

Yet clearly the US is devoid of problems. In fact, one could view the O.J. obsession as being the optimism that has distracted the American masses from pondering their country's real problems.

But the O.J. trials did succeed in bringing into view the country's single most threatening problem: its stark racial divide. While commentators examined this issue ad nauseam and from every angle, expressing little optimism, the thoughts of average O.J.-Americans were deflected from dwelling on other more "mundane" matters such as their country's involvement abroad, or their president's plans at home.

In O.J. America, it is very difficult for Americans to focus on domestic affairs, let alone show much interest in foreign affairs. Thus, when 73 Israelis died when two American-made helicopters collided, the story was assigned to third-class status.

Americans have retreated into isolationism. Despite the globalization of communication, most Americans lack any knowledge about or interest in what goes on outside the 50 states.

At one time, Americans' drive for excellence was a national trait, envied and emulated. Now it has been replaced by the demand to be entertained.

Israelis welcome much of what America has to export these days: cellular phones, McDonald's, Domino's pizza. But President Weizman correctly warned them that the Americanization of Israel wasn't necessarily such a laudable achievement.

When Americans' existence revolves around the opening of Nike Town and the next O.J. Simpson trial, you could say they have lost their sense of national and collective identity.

Though Israelis currently face too many challenges to enjoy the luxury of such self-absorption, the American O.J. Simpson mentality has already begun to permeate their society.

The day will come when Israelis can focus their energies on their own O.J. equivalent. Then the question will be, where do they go from there?

The writer, a Fulbright Scholar in Israel in 1995-96, is now an attorney in San Francisco.

STORY OF MEDICAL & HEALTH TECHNOLOGY

Alight with Albrightomania

Residents of a small Czech town remember the US secretary of state's family, Richard Allen Greene reports

At the ripe old age of 86, Josef Koloc has started collecting business cards. In just two weeks, the retired archivist has gotten cards from *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and *Newsweek*, all without ever leaving his small hometown of Letohrad in eastern Bohemia. Journalist after journalist has made the pilgrimage to meet the man who, in 1994, realized the daughter of his Jewish childhood friend Josef Korbel was the United States ambassador to the UN, Madeleine Albright.

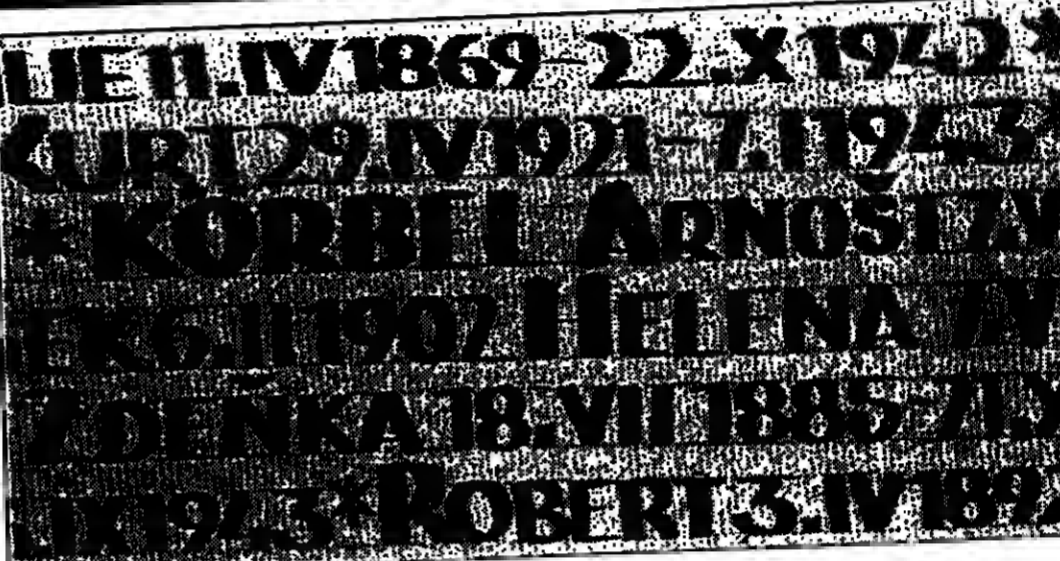
The international attention has become so intense that Letohrad's mayor, Petr Silar, is calling the phenomenon "Albrightomania." But despite having made some concessions to the Albright craze, such as preparing an Albright family tree to give to visiting reporters, local people have largely accepted the connection between their town and the new secretary of state with a shrug.

Much attention has been paid to the discovery that Albright, who was raised as a Catholic by her Czech emigre parents, was of Jewish origin and had as many as a dozen relatives die in concentration camps during World War II. Although Silar wrote no fewer than four letters to Albright, and arranged to have a message left on her answering machine in New York in 1994, Albright has said that she only learned of her Jewish heritage early this month.

"It's possible that she didn't know," admitted Silar. "It's possible the letters just went past her. We wrote to her in Czech, not English." (Albright in fact reportedly speaks good Czech.)

Magdalena Navratilova, a town-hall administrator responsible for education and cultural activities, said that Koloc was the first to make the connection between the local Korbel family and Albright.

"Our first letter [to Albright, in February 1994] was at his initiative," she said. "Koloc used to come to our office every day to see if we had gotten an answer. [When we didn't] we got her telephone number through official channels



Josef Koloc outside the home where Albright's family lived before leaving for Prague in 1928 (top); Korbel, the name of Albright's paternal grandfather, on a memorial wall - in Prague's Pinkas synagogue - for Czech Jews who perished in the Holocaust (above); Vera Rusprechtova with a portrait of her grandfather Jan Rejnek, who ran a business with Albright's grandfather Arnost Korbel. (Sean Gallup)

"Her father was very popular, and for that reason we are happy she has done well," she said. "We want her to know that her father was well-liked, [but] we don't want to pester her."

and left a message on her answering machine in English." Albright never answered that message, or three subsequent letters. Navratilova accepts that silence philosophically.

China revives revolutionary ballet

It's not easy to instill revolutionary values when your target generation regards the landlord bogeyman of communist idealism as a reasonable businessman looking for his rightful profit.

But following the 20th anniversary of the death of China's Chairman Mao Zedong and the reviving of spiritual values topping the agenda of the ruling Communist Party, propaganda officials are trying to do just that.

The latest tool is the model opera, *The White-Haired Girl* - one of only eight operas permitted by Mao's wife, Jiang Qing, to be performed during the 10 chaotic years of the Cultural Revolution.

The Shanghai Ballet Theater has revived the 1940s propaganda tale of the trials of a peasant girl whose hair turns white after she escapes from the clutches of an evil landlord who bought her when her father, a tenant farmer, failed to pay his rent.

The Beijing revival has been a sellout. But responses have been more mixed.

Twenty or 30 years ago, Chinese audiences broke down in tears over scenes such as the mistreatment of the *White-Haired Girl* by the landlord's aging mother. The tale provoked such emotion that when the story was first staged in the 1940s at Mao's residence base in remote western Yunnan, one soldier leapt

from his seat, took out his gun and tried to shoot the landlord. Today, the appearance of the landlord raises titters. One of the main sponsors of the revival, the China Work Committee for Nurturing the Next Generation, said its aim was to educate young people in traditional revolutionary values. "We want to give teenagers a traditional education and enrich their cultural life," a committee official said. "The *White-Haired Girl* is a story with a historical background and political content. We want children to know what life was like in the past."

The official acknowledged that the mix of traditional values in a society racing to modernize may be confusing. "Many children ask why debtors today are not so respectful to their creditors. This is not right," he said. "We cannot use a historical story to explain a current social phenomenon."

It is a middle echoed in the audience. Wang Lizhu, 41, was given free tickets by a friend and wanted his 12-year-old daughter to see a ballet, but not necessarily a work of revolutionary propaganda. "As for children these days, they don't know anything about exploitation by the landlords or the oppression before Liberation," he said, referring to the official name for the 1949 commu-

nist victory. "Some think that the White-Haired Girl's father must pay because he owed money to the landlord," he said. "So you can see this play can't have any political function, it's rather out of date." Ballet critic Ou Jianping agreed. "The characters that are supposed to be ugly and vicious are no longer hateful but laughable," Ou said. "The audience laughs at them nowadays."

"That wasn't quite what the sponsors, or the propaganda users who actually approved the performance, had in mind. "We are using these examples of real heroes to teach people of today to have better values," said one senior government official.

An array of opportunities to make money, often at the expense of others, has opened up with paramount leader Deng Xiaoping's market reforms. One consequence has been the rapid - and to communist leaders alarming - erosion of the spirit of altruism espoused by Mao. Such dramas as *The White-Haired Girl* ballet offer a propaganda pill more palatable to the average Chinese.

"It was very beautiful," said one middle-aged woman, who said she saw the opera many times as a child during the 1966-76 Cultural Revolution. "I felt very nostalgic for those times." (Reuters)

DEAR RUTHIE

By RUTHIE BLUM

Dear Ruthie, Help! The neighbors are ready to kill me. A stray female cat has moved into my apartment building.

ing, sleeping on the neighbors' welcome mat. The cat is on heat and the neighborhood male cats are making so much noise at night that it keeps half the building awake.

I have a cat in my apartment (the only one in the building) and the neighbors blame me for "inviting" this other cat to move in.

What can I do to convince them that I'm not responsible? Frazzled Feline Fan, Jerusalem

Dear Frazzled, If there are no grounds for your neighbors' accusations about you being somehow responsible for

A flap about stray cats

the stray cat's habit of camping out on unwelcoming welcome mats, then you are being used as the building scapegoat. As the only resident of the building with a live-in feline, you are an easy target at whom to aim neighborly niggardiness regarding nocturnal noise.

As such, it is likely that too straightforward explanations on your part about the mating habits of cats is going to get you off the hook where your neighbors are concerned.

Nevertheless, there are some steps you can take to alleviate your distress:

1. Try to coax the cat out of your building.
2. Perhaps you could provide her with a makeshift welcome mat and some milk, away from your building.
3. Though this might not totally solve the noise problem (since the meowing of cats on heat being pursued sounds like a nursery full of howling babies - including if it's across the street), at

least the accusations would have to cease.

2. After coaxing the cat out of the building, keep the main door shut, to prevent other stray cats from coming in.

3. Translate and hang this column on the building committee bulletin board.

4. Distribute sets of earplugs for all of your neighbors with an attached photocopy of an encyclopedic description of female felines on heat - proving that neither you nor your pet are to "blame."

Dear Ruthie, I have always spoken to my children in English to make sure that they remain bilingual. But lately, my youngest (now 10) is rebelling. He only speaks to his siblings and to his father and I in Hebrew.

I feel he is doing this on purpose. I know that one day he will thank me for him having two languages under his belt. And this is why I have adopted a tactic of

ignoring him when he speaks to me in Hebrew.

My husband thinks this is silly, and won't play along with me. What do you think? Aro a Linguol Loss, Kfor Sabo

Dear At a Linguol Loss, I think that ignoring your child is more likely to increase his desire to rebel than it is to encourage him to converse in English.

And, whether or not he is purposely speaking only in Hebrew, he undoubtedly has a great command of "passive" English due to his exposure to it. There is no reason, then, for you to force the issue.

You can continue to address your son in English, and let him respond however he likes.

Letters should be addressed to: 'Dear Ruthie,' POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. For E-mail: editors@jpost.co.il

DICTIONARY OF MEDICAL & HEALTH TERMINOLOGY
By Ellen Feingold MD and Miriam Freier
User-friendly, comprehensive and up-to-date. We can expect to find the more academic Hebrew translation alongside the common-usage term for every entry. And there is no book in print with more words and phrases in translation than this one. It will be useful for every level of medical personnel, medical students and teachers and for the parent who needs to know how to translate common words for the doctor. Prof. Oded Abramsky, The Chief Scientist Israel Ministry of Health, Chairman, Dept. of Neurology, Hadassah Hebrew University Hospital, Hardcover, Published by Carta.
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O.J. America
ADAM DOOR
A...
Americans strove to excel. They just want entertainment. Are Israelis emulating them?

BUSINESS

in brief

Motorola seeking plant in South

Motorola Semiconductor Israel Ltd., a subsidiary of Motorola Israel, is seeking investments for a new development center. The center, which will function as an extension of the company's Herzliya plant, will be located in the South and is expected to begin operating in six months. Motorola expects to invest \$9 million in the new plant over the next three years and has applied for governmental financing. The Treasury has not yet responded to the company's request.

Motorola Semiconductor general manager Israel Kashat said the plant's purpose is to harness the workforce that resides in the southern part of the country. "We evaluated that in the South there is a growing reservoir of qualified engineers, and we hope to recruit dozens of engineers in the first year," Kashat said in a statement. Much of the South is considered development area A. Projects slated for this area qualify to apply for the government's maximum development-aid packages.

Jennifer Friedlin

Livnat: Tender for 3rd mobile phone firm soon

Communications Minister Limor Livnat told Canadian Trade Minister Art Eggleton yesterday that a tender for a third mobile telephone company is expected to be posted in the next few months and added that the telecommunications sector will be open to full competition by January 1999. Two Canadian telecommunications companies are currently operating in Israel. Northern Telecom recently bought a 20-percent stake in Teledat for \$45 million, and Canadian interest Newbridge has formed a partnership with Tadiran involving TNN.

Eggleton said Canadian companies are interested in further investing in Israeli telecommunications and that Israeli companies should consider doing business in Canada. Eggleton invited Livnat to visit Canada. Eggleton is leading a delegation of leading Canadian industrialists on a four-day visit here.

Jennifer Friedlin

Gov't plan for Samurai flotation draws interest

Some 20 Japanese investment houses have expressed interest in the Israel government's planned flotation on the Samurai market, State Accountant General Shai Talmon said yesterday.

Treasury Director-General David Brodet is scheduled to visit Tokyo next week to oversee the initial stages of the \$150 million flotation. The government has already appointed Mitsui, Yasuda, Wani and Maeda to act as its legal representative for its first entry into the Japanese capital markets.

David Harris

Fund helps new immigrants set up firms

The \$2 million George and Adele Klein business loan fund for new immigrants has helped set up 552 small companies in its first four and a half years, according to the fund's annual report.

The initial \$1m. from the Klein family, matched by the Jewish Agency, has been translated into loans totaling NIS 4.65m., of which NIS 4.19m. has already been repaid. Money from the fund has gone to 133 transportation-related firms, 73 medical-sector businesses and more than 100 individual tradesmen and 42 artists.

"This very helpful gesture has given hundreds of olim their independence, the ability to stand on their own two feet," said fund chairman Naphtali Levy.

David Harris

Current-account deficit expanded 25% in '96

By Jerusalem Post Staff

The current-account deficit, which is the overall gap between imported and exported goods and services, expanded 25 percent last year to \$4.9 billion, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

At the same time, foreign investments in Israel rose even more sharply, 41.6%, from \$1.2b. in 1995 to \$1.7b. last year.

The CBS attributed the deterioration in the state of the balance of payments to a \$3b. expansion in

the import of goods and services, which was only partially offset by last year's \$1.4 increase in Israel's overall exports and a \$600 million rise in unilateral transferred income.

The widening current-account deficit was financed by a \$3b. capital import, much the same as the figure for 1995.

At the same time there was also a \$1.9b. export of capital, \$300m. more than the previous year's figure.

The external debt, as of December 31, totaled \$20b. after

factoring in \$28b. worth of Israeli assets overseas.

The basic trade gap, discounting unilateral transfers, totaled \$12.5b. last year, including \$1.8b. in defense-related imports.

Among imported services, significant increases were registered in overseas-bound debt services, which expanded by \$500m., and a \$300m. rise in expenditures of Israeli tourists abroad.

Residents of the Palestinian Authority purchased \$1.8b. worth of goods and services in Israel, an increase of \$300m. from the pre-

vious year, while Israeli purchases from Palestinians declined by \$100m. to \$700m.

Unilateral transfers totaled \$7.9b. last year, of which \$3.6b. were addressed to the government, mostly as US-government aid.

Analysts said that the current-account deficit—coupled with last year's higher than planned budget deficit—is likely to ultimately force the government to further trim its budget, after having already done so by slashing NIS 7b. from the 1997 budget.

Carrier bids for stake in Tadiran Appliances

By GALIT LIPKIS BECK

US air conditioner company Carrier is in advanced negotiations to purchase 26 percent of Tadiran Appliances from Tadiran, a Tadiran spokesman said yesterday.

The companies entered talks about four months ago. According to the proposed agreement, Carrier will receive an option to increase its holdings in the electric appliances company in three years, turning it into a controlling shareholder. The transaction is estimated at \$18 million.

Carrier is among the world's leading air conditioning and heating system manufacturers. The company owns 49 manufacturing plants worldwide.

The partnership agreement is expected to increase Tadiran's overseas marketing ability.

Tadiran Appliances announced a fourth quarter net loss of NIS 7m., compared to a net profit of NIS 2.3m. in the corresponding period last year.

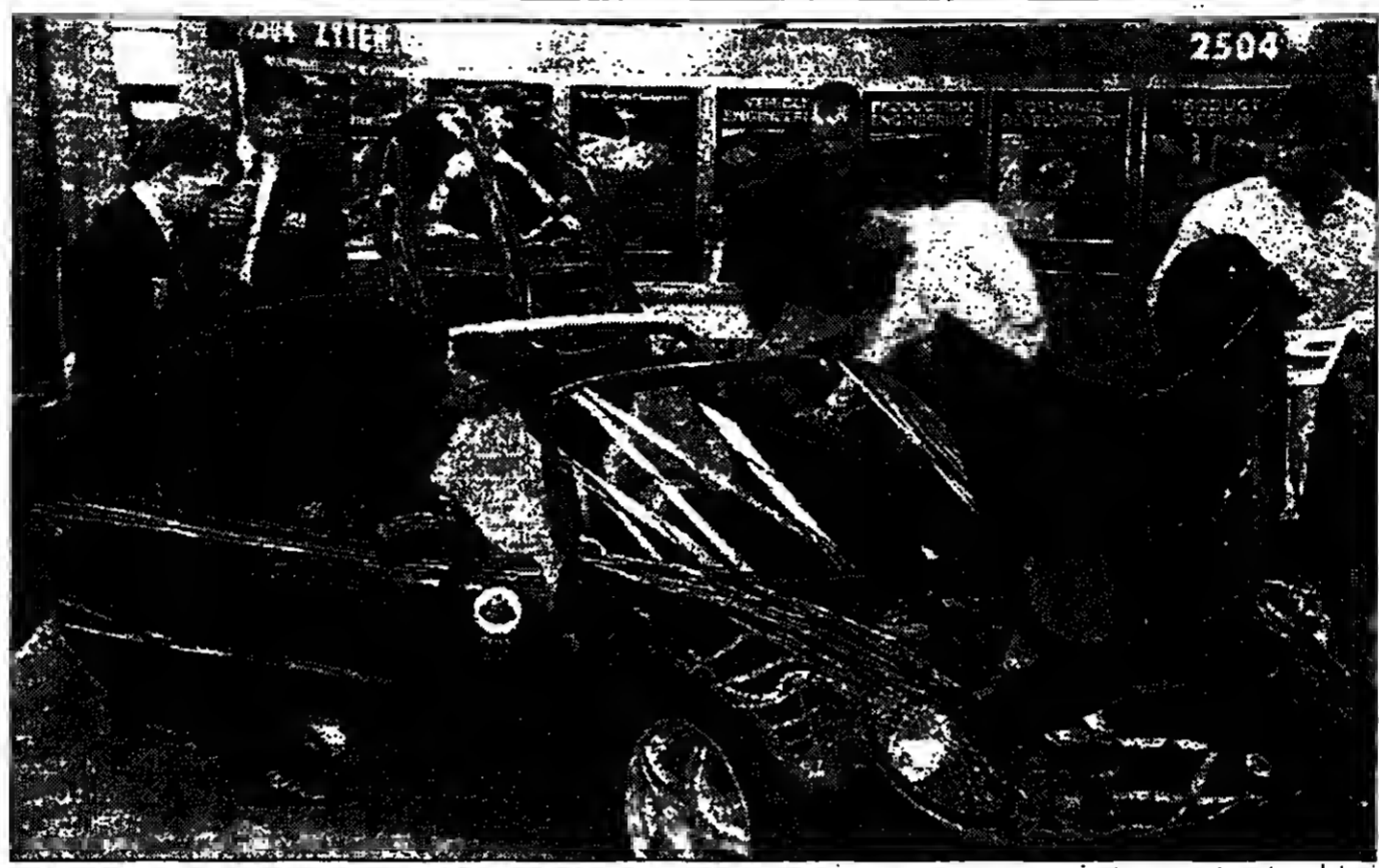
The company completed 1996 with a net profit of NIS 1.6m., a sharp decrease from a net profit of NIS 14.3m. in the previous year.

The appliance market suffered a drop in sales last year from 1995, which was a record high year in terms of sales in Israel and Europe, said Moshe Horvitz, general manager of the company and Yisrael Zamir, chairman of the company, in the report attached to the financial statements.

Tadiran suffered from increased competition and inventory last year, they said.

Sales fell 3% last year to NIS 589m.

The company's financing expenses increased to NIS 12.4m. from NIS 4.4m. At the end of the year, the company had a negative cash flow on activity of NIS 29.7m.



Zytek Automotive Ltd. unveils a road-ready electric sports car based on a Lotus Elise at the 1997 Society of Automotive Engineers International Congress and Exposition in Detroit. Powered by two Zytek 75-kilowatt motors, the car has a range of 190 kilometers.

Poalim Investments to buy Dovrat-Shrem real estate firm

By GALIT LIPKIS BECK

Poalim Investments, which is controlled by the Dovrat-Shrem group, intends to acquire the Dovrat-Shrem-Kellner real estate company, also controlled by Dovrat-Shrem, for about \$40 million, the company informed the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange yesterday.

The transaction, currently in the negotiation phase, will be in the form of a share exchange between Dovrat-Shrem-Kellner and Poalim Investments, a holding company engaged in indus-

try, communications, trade and services.

The transaction will increase Poalim Investments' activities in the real estate field.

The company currently holds property but does not have any investments in the real estate sector.

According to the proposed transaction, Hapoalim Electronic Communications, a fully owned subsidiary of Poalim Investments, will transfer its 21-percent holding in Poalim Investments, estimated at about \$40m., to the owners of Dovrat-

Shrem-Kellner.

Dovrat Shrem currently controls about 21% of Poalim Investments.

Dovrat-Shrem-Kellner was established two years ago. The real estate company is engaged in 40 projects throughout the country.

The company is owned by Aharon Dovrat, who holds 16.6%; Yitzhak Shrem (16.6%); Avigdor Kellner (11.5%); Lidar (10%); and Yair Pudim (2.2%).

The remaining shares are held by a group of 30 private investors.

Samsung Electronics mulls investment opportunities here

By DAVID HARRIS

Senior Samsung Electronics Co. officials will visit here next month to investigate possible investment opportunities and cooperation possibilities, an Industry and Trade Ministry spokesman said yesterday.

This week executives from another large Korean company, LG Industrial Systems, are in Israel researching similar opportunities.

LG Industrial Systems has approximately \$15 billion in annual sales and employs some 57,000 workers.

The company specializes in consumer and industrial equipment—including memory chips, semiconductors, computers, telecommunications and televisions.

Samsung Electronics is looking into the opening of a representative office in Israel and the establishment of a research and development center.

The company is particularly

interested in building links in the fields of communications, computer software and hardware and semiconductors.

The companies lined up for cooperation with Samsung include Teledat, Rad, Tadiran Communications, Chip Express and many start-up firms.

"This follows a year of intensive negotiations with Samsung Electronics," said Shachar Meidan, the Center for Business Promotion's foreign investment specialist.

Meanwhile, a delegation from Lucky Goldstar Industrial Systems business development section is currently visiting Israel in a bid to find partners for joint projects.

Meetings are taking place with officials from various companies—including Tadiran, Bargold, Robotics and DSI.

LG deals mainly with construction, the electricity industry, traffic-control mechanisms, robotics and automated systems.

Oil and Energy Industries Ltd.
Tender No. 9710735 Tev
Refurbishing of Marine Pipeline in Mooring Basin 5, Herta Bay
(Replacing Approx. 1,000 m. Section of 32" Pipe on Sea Bed)

Contractors are invited to submit bids for carrying out the work covered by this tender.

The tender documents (which are in English) can be perused at the Tenders Dept. of the Company (Room 20).
The tender documents can be obtained (no charge) from March 14, 1997, on submitting confirmation of registration in the Register of Contractors. This confirmation must indicate that the professional category and financial scope, under which the bidder is registered, are in line with the requirements detailed below.

If the bidder's two classifications in the Register do not comply with these requirements, he should submit a confirmation which does so comply, provided by a subcontractor with whom he submits a joint bid.

Bids may be submitted, only by contractors who comply with Regulation 8 A of the Mandatory Tender Regulations 1995, who are registered in A1ef of the Mandatory Tender Regulations - 5755 (Preference for Israeli-made Products and Obligation to Extend Business Cooperation) 1995, of January 15, 1995, and Preference for Products from Preferred Areas - 5755 - 1995, of January 6, 1995.

6A. Preference will be given to Israeli-made products, in accordance with sub-regulations D and E, within the limits of the price for offers for purchasing Israeli-made goods which should not exceed the price of imported goods by more than 15%.

As a condition for receiving a preferred status, the bidder should attach confirmation by an accountant of the percentage of the price of the Israeli component in the offer.

6B. Preference will be given to products from areas of national preference, in accordance with sub-regulations A, as dictated by the price criteria for the tender bids.

To be accepted, the price of goods from preferred areas must not exceed the price of the otherwise successful bid by more than:

(1) 10% for goods and services from Area A1ef for office supplies, excluding tenders of the Ministry of Defense.
(2) 5% for goods and services from Area B for purchases for all other ministries.

The bidder must attach, as a condition for receiving preferred status, confirmation from the Ministry of Industry and Trade that his factory is in, and products come from areas of national preference.
Last date for submitting bids: Monday, March 31, 1997, at 12 noon.
Applications for the tender documents should be made by fax only, to 02-5317778, giving the following information:

Tender No. _____ Subject of Tender _____
Name of company bidding _____ Authorized Trader's No. _____
Company's address, with postal code No. _____
Fax No. _____ Tel. No. _____
Company's bank _____ Bank branch No. _____ Bank acc. No. _____
(at which company has its account)

The tender documents and technical specifications will be sent, after receipt of a fax, as aforesaid.

Our address: Tenders and Buying Dept., The Accountant General, Finance Ministry, 1 Kaplan, 7th Floor, Room 714 or 715, or P.O.B. 13195, Jerusalem 91131.
Additional details from Tel. 02-5317428, 02-5317418.
No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid.

Opting for a bull's eye, every time? Let us handle your portfolio.

TACHLIT
Portfolio Management Co. Ltd.
A Member Of Israel Discount Bank Group

Tel Aviv (main office): 03-4945555 • Tel Aviv (branch): 03-5202211 • Jerusalem: 02-254319 • Haifa: 04-370041 • Ra'anana: 03-940715 • Ramat Hasharon: 03-940088

PRIME TARGET 1000 Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 25.2.97
Purchase Price: 115.91
Redemption Price: 114.41

למסחר בבורסה תל אביב

(1000) TARGET 1000 Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 25.2.97
Purchase Price: 164.84
Redemption Price: 162.47

למסחר בבורסה תל אביב

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patrah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.750	5.000	5.250
Pound sterling (£100,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.625	1.625	1.125
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.825	0.750	1.000
Yen (10 million yen)	-	-	-

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (26.2.97)

Currency basket	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep. Rates**
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	3.8045	3.8225	3.24	3.21	3.6418
German mark	1.9784	2.0083	1.94	2.04	3.3380
French franc	5.4172	5.5046	5.32	5.69	1.9947
Japanese yen (100)	0.8587	0.8952	0.57	0.61	5.4656
Dutch florin	2.7335	2.7778	2.68	2.82	0.5912
Swiss franc	1.7574	1.7858	1.72	1.82	2.7580
Spanish peseta (100)	2.2844	2.3010	2.22	2.34	1.7738
Norwegian krona	0.4457	0.4527	0.43	0.46	2.2918
Denish krone	0.4587	0.5037	0.48	0.52	0.4493
Finnish mark	0.5182	0.5288	0.50	0.54	5.0004
Canadian dollar	0.6828	0.6736	0.65	0.69	0.6225
Australian dollar	2.4256	2.4648	2.35	2.50	0.6589
S. African rand	2.2396	2.2607	2.21	2.24	2.4525
Belgian franc (10)	0.7449	0.7370	0.67	0.78	2.6360
Austrian schilling (10)	0.8572	0.9727	0.94	0.99	0.7330
Italian lira (1000)	2.8088	2.8542	2.78	2.93	0.9859
Jordanian dinar	1.9894	2.0164	1.94	2.05	2.8241
Egyptian pound	4.8000	4.9100	4.80	4.91	2.0035
ECU	0.9400	1.0200	0.94	1.02	4.7567
Irish punt	3.8354	3.8973	3.77	3.87	1.0151
Spanish peseta (100)	8.2657	8.3507	5.17	5.43	3.5702
	2.8306	2.8682	2.29	2.41	5.3141

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.
SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Tel. _____
Signature _____

02-5317428

ISRAELI SHARES IN NEW YORK

Table with columns: AMEX, NASDAQ, and various stock symbols with their respective prices and changes.

Table with columns: LAST CHANGE and various stock symbols with their respective prices and changes.

Table with columns: LAST CHANGE and various stock symbols with their respective prices and changes.

MISHTANIM LEADING 100 TASE ISSUES

Table with columns: LAST CHANGE and various stock symbols with their respective prices and changes.

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INTERNATIONAL SHARES

Table with columns: LAST CHANGE and various stock symbols with their respective prices and changes.

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NEW YORK

Large table with columns: LAST CHANGE and various stock symbols with their respective prices and changes.

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TASE ROUNDUP

Shares closed almost unchanged yesterday in mixed trading as the market continued expressing concern over the political situation, traders said.

The benchmark Mishtanim index of top 100 shares fell 0.03 percent, or 0.07 points, to 252.72 on all-share turnover of NIS 146 million against NIS 137m. on Tuesday.

The Maof 25 blue chip index closed 0.09% lower at 261.48. "The fact that the market closed unchanged today is meaningless, because it was the outcome of heavy trading by options speculators. If it weren't for Teva we would have seen a sharp drop," said Idan Azoulay at Impact Union Prudential Management.

Elisha Rosenfeld of Lehava Investments added that foreign investors were active buying shares, preventing the market from falling.

Teva Pharmaceutical Industries, the volume leader, surged 5.75% to 20.541 agrot on volume of NIS15m. Teva's Nasdaq-traded American depositary receipts

ADR's rose 4.1% on Tuesday after several American investment banks issued buy recommendations for the share.

"There is much uncertainty in the market because of the Bar-On story and the Har Homa building. Investors are sitting on the fence waiting for further developments," Azoulay said.

"The market is very nervous," Rosenfeld said. "I think all the political events are only an excuse for investors to take profits."

Traders said that as long as the political uncertainty remains, the market will be volatile with a downside tendency.

Other active shares include Israel Chemicals, which fell 3.0% to 5.9m, and Bank Leumi, which rose 2.0% to 560 agrot on volume of NIS 5.6m.

(Reuter)

Market unchanged despite Teva surge

Mishtanim 252.72 ▼ 0.03% Maof 261.48 ▼ 0.09%

By DAN GERSTENFELD

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(Reuter)

World Market Roundup

LONDON (Reuters) - European bourses dipped yesterday as US central bank chief Alan Greenspan voiced concerns about soaring stock prices but his

binets about a rise in interest rates boosted the dollar. Shares in London, Frankfurt and Paris, which had been marking time ahead of the keynote speech, tumbled minutes after Greenspan spoke before recovering some poise.

But his words had the opposite effect on currency markets where the dollar rose sharply as dealers interpreted them as a hint that U.S. interest rates will be raised to stop inflation in the bud.

Although Greenspan delivered a largely upbeat assessment of the U.S. economy his worries

about stock prices and the risk of higher inflation unnerved the markets on both sides of the Atlantic.

"Even I must admit that our economic prospects in general are quite favourable," Greenspan said in his semiannual economic testimony to Congress.

But investors took fright as Greenspan warned that financial markets, including investors in stocks and junk bonds, may be over-optimistic about the economic outlook and urged caution.

"Such caution seems especially warranted with regard to the sharp rise in equity prices during the past two years," he said.

"These gains have obviously raised questions of sustainability."

Dollar Crossrates (US)

Table with columns: Last, Change and various currency symbols with their respective rates and changes.

US Commodities

Table with columns: Last, Change and various commodity symbols with their respective prices and changes.

London Commodities

Table with columns: Last, Change and various commodity symbols with their respective prices and changes.

Spot Market Metals (US)

Table with columns: Last, Change and various metal symbols with their respective prices and changes.

New York Metal Futures

Table with columns: Last, Change and various metal symbols with their respective prices and changes.

London Metal Fixes

Table with columns: Last, Change and various metal symbols with their respective prices and changes.

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Late goal wins for Germany

By DEREK FATTAL
and ORI LEWIS

Israel's national soccer squad ended 1-0 losers in last night's friendly international at Ramat Gan against Germany, falling to an 85th-minute goal slotted beyond the reach of Rafi Cohen by the German's man-of-the-match Dariusz Woz.

Despite the massive media attention in Germany and the issue of 12,000 free tickets, the match against the current European champions attracted a disappointing attendance of under 20,000.

More's the pity, as the depleted Israeli side, missing four of its star players, put on a spunky performance, matching the Germans shot for shot in the first half, and defending valiantly in the second period as the visitors finally began to show glimpses of the traditional skills and organization that have carried them to three World Cup final victories and the same number of European championships.

Ran Ben-Shimon, a last-minute stand-in for Nir Klinger, together with Ronnie Rosenthal typified Israel's spirit, fighting for every ball and laying passes off intelligently.

German captain Juergen Klinsmann hardly got a look in during the first 45 minutes as the hosts closed down the Germans around the edge of the area. Having disarmed Germany's attacks, Sholmo Scharf's men began to defend with confidence to take the ball forward in an attempt to mark his 50th match as national coach with a goal.

A well-worked Israeli free kick surprised Dieter Eilts and his fellow-defenders in the 14th minute, but the shot that ended the move by Felix Halfon was blocked. On the next attacking incursion into German territory, Itzik Zohar's long-range effort just whisked wide of Oliver Kahn's far post.

In the 33rd minute, Mario Basler released a speculative shot from outside the Israeli box that caught a sharp deflection from an Israeli defender and lobbed high into the air before crashing on the crossbar.

Undeterred, the Israelis charged back at their illustrious opponents. Rosenthal carved a gaping hole in Germany's defense with a pass to the left that set Avi Nimni on his way to goal. Unfortunately the Maccabi Tel Aviv midfielder's attempt was way off target.

The Germans had to weather another serious scare three minutes before Italian referee Stefano Braschi ended the first half, when Zohar executed a glorious dummy on Matthias Sammer. Perhaps Zohar could not believe his fortune as he surged unchallenged towards Kahn and the German goal. Once again the final kick made a mockery of what preceded it, as Zohar hammered the ball into the side netting.

Although the Germans made just one substitution at the interval - Bayer Leverkusen's Ulf Kirsten for the ineffective Fredi Bobic - Bert Vogts side was a different force in the second period.

Sammer moved into midfield instead of potting around as sweeper, and the difference was felt immediately. Andreas Moller immediately began to speed up the



CLOSING IN - Israel's Ronnie Rosenthal (1) dribbles around German defender Juergen Kohler.

tempo of the German play together with Basler. The Germans weaved their way through the Israeli defenses forcing Rafi Cohen to make the first of a number of athletic saves.

Assisted by Kirsten and Klinsmann, the ceaseless efforts of Woz - on the way to registering an outstanding debut for the united German side - began to pull Israel's central defenders out of position.

In the 56th minute, a perfect cross pitched in from the right by Basler was met by a spectacular scissor kick by Klinsmann that Cohen collected. Seconds later Kirsten received the ball in the same position only to find Cohen perfectly situated again.

Kirsten had another fine effort saved before a move by the Betar trio of Ohana, Amsalem and Zohar finally relieved the pressure by moving the action to the other

goalmouth. The woodwork was to come to Israel's salvation again in the 66th minute when a Moller free kick hit the post, bounced to Kirsten who was denied once again by Cohen from just two meters out.

Rosenthal and then substitute Alon Hazan each created a break that exposed Germany's defensive frailty on the night. As the game moved towards the final 10 minutes, it looked as if the Israelis would successfully hold out for an honorable draw. It was not to be as a high ball into the area in the 85th minute at last beat Gadi Brumer and fell to Woz who guided it gleefully into Cohen's goal for the winner.

Scharf immediately exchanged the tiring Ohana for Alon Mizrahi. Nimni put the Betar Yehuda forward through, and with his very first touch, Mizrahi beat his defender but suffered the

agonies of seeing his shot beat Kahn, but then strike the post.

The final move in the proceedings could have brought Germany a goal from Klinsmann, but the great man misfired.

Despite losing, the Israelis will have regained a lot of confidence from this match which should allow them to put behind the poor form that began with the World Cup qualifying defeat in Cyprus last November.

"There was a distinct difference between our play in the first and second halves," Vogts said after the match. "We showed great aggression and determination and I am happy with that half of our performance," he continued.

Vogts was clearly happy with the result too. "Despite the Israelis' excellent play in the first half, we played well later on and deserved this result, no doubt about it," he said.

Nat'l hoopsters heading for Spain

Israel earns European championship berth with win over Belarus

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Coach Zvi Sherf and the rest of the national basketball team can start practicing their Spanish after a 65-57 victory over Belarus in Minsk last night earned them a spot in this summer's European championships, to be played in Spain.

Using a ball-control offense and tight defense, the Israeli squad quickly took control of the game and never looked back, led by fine backcourt play by both Doron Sheffer (12 points) and Adi Gordon (10).

Belarus proved to be much less of a threat than anticipated, relying almost completely on three-point attempts. While they did manage to surprise Israel early by taking a quick 4-0 lead, Sheffer and his teammates were able to establish a slow pace. That prevented the young Belarus squad from having any chance at getting too close to the 22-point advantage Israel brought into the game from the last encounter between the two sides last year.

From an offensive standpoint, the game wasn't pretty, although there were some fine fast breaks by Israel, thanks to outstanding team defense that rattled Belarus.

Motti Daniel, playing his last game with the national team, hit a three-pointer, then Sheffer scored to make it 22-14 Israel midway through the first half. Nadav Henefeld had another fine defensive game, and showed some offense as well with eight points, while Oded Katash chipped in 9 as Sherf shuffled his line-up throughout. A basket by Katash towards the end of the first half gave Israel

a 30-18 lead, and Israel went into the locker room with a commanding 34-23 halftime advantage.

With Israel unable to do much on the backboards, Belarus attempted an unusual tactic: chucking up as many shots as possible, with the hope that they'd get the rebound and eventually score. That seemed to work for a while in the second half as Andrei Klemez led his team to within seven. However, Sheffer took over the offense again and Israel increased the lead to 44-33.

Uri Cohen-Mintz provided some quality minutes inside for Israel in the second half, and Lior Ardit, recently added to the national team roster, scored seven points down the stretch to help Israel withstand a late Belarus flurry that was largely a product of Israel's mistakes.

A basket by Dimitry Kuzmin brought Belarus to within 60-56, and it appeared briefly like Israel would escape with its point differential intact, but without a victory. However, a steal and basket by Gur Shelef sealed the win for Israel, sending them to the championships from Group A along with Greece and Bosnia, and making the trip to Spain even more well-deserved.

In other Group A action last night, Greece beat Gruzia 65-61, and Bosnia topped Slovakia 108-87.

European Championships Final Group A Standings

Greece	9	1	19
Bosnia	7	3	17
Israel	6	4	16
Belarus	4	6	14
Gruzia	3	7	13
Slovakia	1	9	11

15th Maccabiah to mark '100 years of Zionism'

By JOEL GORDIN

A record number of sportspeople from more than 50 countries will compete in the 15th Maccabiah to be held throughout the country from July 14-24. The event's theme is "100 years of Zionism." Among the 6,200 participants will be visitors from 50 countries in 43 sports. Some 1,600 Israelis are also expected to compete.

The sporting events will be held at venues from Metulla in the north to Ein Gedi in the south, according to organizing committee chairman Yoram Eyal who spoke at a press conference at Kfar Maccabiah.

The majority of the visitors will stay in Netanya and Jerusalem while most of the VIP's will be quartered in Tel Aviv. Eyal happily announced that all the major hotels have been booked solid for the period of the games.

The Maccabiah will kick off on July 14 with the traditional opening ceremony. The President and the Prime Minister have both announced their intention to be present. Eyal declined to disclose details, but mentioned that the cost of the ceremony will be more than \$1 million.

In almost every one of the 43 sports there will be a youth and masters (senior) section. "To give an idea of the extent of the logistics problems, there will 2,800 tennis matches," explained sports' section head Yehoram Baruch.

Two new sports this year will be beach volleyball at Netanya and ice hockey at Metulla. "Four countries, Israel, Russia, the US and Canada, will field talented ice hockey teams," promised Baruch. "Those interested in the sport will be able to fly to the north in charter aircraft provided by Arkia."

Baruch admitted that in previous years the sports' standard at the Maccabiah had fallen, "especially in events which Jewish people now don't take part in most countries like track and field and gymnastics." However, he maintained the standard remained high in "traditional Jewish sports like tennis and golf." He also stated that the Maccabiah officials were negotiating with top sportspeople throughout the world to participate, in an attempt to add more professional interest.

He added: "To promote spectator interest we will not sell tickets at each game. The public can buy one reasonably-priced pass which will serve as an entry pass to each event," he said.

The closing ceremony will take part in the Jerusalem area - probably at Latrun. "We will not hold it at Teddy Stadium because we don't want to annoy Betar by messing up their grass," joked Eyal.

Soccer rules slated for review after 60 years

ZURICH (AP) - The basic rules of soccer are set to be redrafted for the first time in almost 60 years at the International Football Association Board's annual meeting in Belfast on Saturday.

And if proposed modifications are accepted, throw-ins back to the goalkeeper will be outlawed and keepers will be free to move along their line when facing penalties.

FIFA, the sport's world governing body, said yesterday the board will be reviewing the revised text of the "Laws of the Game" - the 17 basic rules of soccer.

The rules were last drafted in 1938 by Sir Stanley Rouse and have become cumbersome with additions and amendments over the years.

And the IFAB and FIFA hope to introduce some measures to speed up the game at the same time as

Hodgson to take reins at Blackburn

BLACKBURN (AP) - Roy Hodgson is quitting Italian giant Inter Milan to become the new manager of Blackburn Rovers, the Premier League club announced yesterday.

The former Swiss national team coach signed a three-year contract and is due to take over at Ewood Park in July, although Blackburn chairman Robert Coar said Hodgson could join the club sooner.

Hodgson was in Naples yesterday for Inter Milan's Italian Cup game against Napoli. The club is still in the UEFA Cup and is currently lying third in Serie A.

How quickly Hodgson will be released depends on how soon the Italians can line up a replacement.

"If Roy were to come available sooner than expected, he would come straight to us," Coar said. "He is very enthusiastic about coming and almost climbed down the phone when we contacted him." If Hodgson is committed to stay with Milan the rest of the season, Tony Parkes will continue as Rovers' caretaker manager.

Hodgson's appointment ends millionaire owner Jack Walker's long search for a manager.

The 1995 league champions have floundered since Kenny Dalglish stepped down after securing Blackburn's first title since 1914. His assistant Ray Harford took over the reins but failed to build on that success and resigned last fall.

German court rejects Seles's appeal of stabbing case

HAMBURG (AP) - The Hamburg state supreme court yesterday rejected an appeal by tennis star Monica Seles seeking a prison term for a man who knifed her in the back during a tennis match in 1993.

Seles, ranked No. 1 in the world at the time of the attack, was sidelined for 27 months after Guenter Parche stabbed her in the back during a break in the match on April 30, 1993.

Parche, who said he was a fan of German star Steffi Graf, was convicted in October 1995 of causing grievous bodily harm to

Seles and received a two-year suspended sentence.

Seles' lawyers appealed the light sentence and asked that Parche's conviction be increased to attempted manslaughter, which carries a sentence of at least two years in prison. With the court's rejection, Parche remains free and the stabbing case is closed.

It was the second defeat for Seles since December, when a Hamburg court tossed out a civil suit for DM 24.4 million in damages against the German Tennis Federation for lack of security.

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Handwritten signature or note at the bottom of the page.

CRITIC'S CHOICE

ENGLISH THEATER

HELEN KAYE

Daphne du Maurier's gothic thriller Rebecca is the story of how a dead woman nearly destroys a new love. The Tel Aviv Community Theater production stars Marilyn Lyons as the enigmatic Mrs. Danvers and introduces David Gillis and Malka Abrams as Max de Winter and his new wife. Directed by Edmund Jonah. Tonight and Saturday night at Yad LeShimon at 8:30.

Don't Dress for Dinner, the long-running West End hit farce, by Marc Camoletti about adultery, cookery, and trickery down on the farm. Tonight in Rehovot's Wix Auditorium and Saturday night at the Netanya Auditorium at 8:30.

JEST (Jerusalem English Speaking Theater) veteran Arthur Ingram stars as aging solicitor Arthur Kipps and six other characters in Stephen Mallaterra's chiller thriller The Woman in Black, with Jonathan Gillis playing young Kipps. Gifted director Kelly Harog promises "an evening of nail-biting tension." Tonight at Gerard Behar at 8.

OPERA

HELEN KAYE

That dynamic duo of opera, Cav and Pag, are back at the New Israeli Opera. That's Cavalleria Rusticana by Mascagni and Leoncavallo's Pagliacci. Mezzos Ning Liang and Monica Minarelli are making their NIO debut as Lola (Pag) and tenor John Keyes as Camio (Pag) and Turiddu (Cav) joins Jon West and Antonio Nagore (Cav), who've sung the role before. At the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center tomorrow at 1 p.m. and on Saturday at 8 p.m.

DANCE

HELEN KAYE

Rena Schenfeld and Canadian dancer Margie Gillis, in a first-time Israeli/Canadian artistic collaboration, have created the duet Dream, a 19-minute evocation of womanhood that is the centerpiece of a program featuring solos by both



Japanese dance troupe Sankai Juku whirls onto the stage tonight and Saturday.

women, each of whom is a distinguished dancer/choreographer. On the main stage at the Suzanne Dellal Dance Center tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. and on Saturday at 9 p.m. only.

Sankai Juku, Japan's foremost exponents of Butoh, returns with Shijima, a piece in seven movements for five dancers led by Ushio Amagatsu and Atsushi Ogasu. Just let the dancers take you with them into the intimate, emotional personal world of Shijima, which means serenity, the serenity that comes after pain. At the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center tonight at 8:30 and on Saturday at 9:30 p.m.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Renowned Spanish pianist Joaquin Achucarro joins the Ra'anana Symphonette Orchestra to perform De Falla's ultimate Spanish opus Noches en los Jardines de Espana ("Nights in the Gardens of Spain"). Saturday and then March 3, 4, 5 and 8 at Yad LeShimon in Ra'anana (9) with a pre-concert talk with Zaliouk 30 minutes earlier.

Yaron Pranski leads the Ramat Hasharon Camera Orchestra in an all-Vivaldi program featuring concerti and symphonies Saturday (11.11 a.m.) in Tzavta in Tel Aviv.

Soprano Francois Pollet performs tonight (9) in Nazareth with members of the Israel Chamber Orchestra and choirs from Nazareth and Kiryat Tivon. The program features Bernard Lalmann's Peace Cantata.

TV

CHANNEL 1

6:30 News flash 6:31 News in Arabic 6:45 Exercise Time 7:00 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Family Ties 8:45 Medicine Demystified 9:00 Arithmetic 9:25 Reading 9:45 Programs for the very young 10:15 Astronomy 10:30 Literature 11:00 Mathematics 11:10 French 11:30 Biology 12:30 Art 13:00 In the Heat of the Night 14:00 Surprise Train 14:20 Kitty Cat and 14:35 Babar the Elephant 15:00 Autoto

CHANNEL 2

8:15 Today's Programs 6:30 Sharkey and George (pt) 7:00 Breakfast magazine 8:00 Stanley and the Women - part 4 10:00 Pablo 11:00 Talking About It - with Danny Roup 12:00 The Girl Next Door 12:30 Truth or Dare 13:00 Sounds from the Concert Hall 14:00 Echo Point 14:30 Tic Tac 15:00 The Best Israeli Video Clips 15:15 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News Magazine with Rati Reshet 17:30 Open Cards 18:00 Almost Perfect 18:30 Kickoff - soccer 19:00 Pacific Blue 20:00 News 20:30 Zohu Zah - live 21:05 Candid Camera 21:45 Dan Shilon Live 23:20 Exposure 00:00 News 00:05 Ticket for Two 00:30 From the Concert Halls

CHANNEL 3

8:15 Today's Programs 6:30 Sharkey and George (pt) 7:00 Breakfast magazine 8:00 Stanley and the Women - part 4 10:00 Pablo 11:00 Talking About It - with Danny Roup 12:00 The Girl Next Door 12:30 Truth or Dare 13:00 Sounds from the Concert Hall 14:00 Echo Point 14:30 Tic Tac 15:00 The Best Israeli Video Clips 15:15 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News Magazine with Rati Reshet 17:30 Open Cards 18:00 Almost Perfect 18:30 Kickoff - soccer 19:00 Pacific Blue 20:00 News 20:30 Zohu Zah - live 21:05 Candid Camera 21:45 Dan Shilon Live 23:20 Exposure 00:00 News 00:05 Ticket for Two 00:30 From the Concert Halls

CHANNEL 4

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CHANNEL 5

8:15 Today's Programs 6:30 Sharkey and George (pt) 7:00 Breakfast magazine 8:00 Stanley and the Women - part 4 10:00 Pablo 11:00 Talking About It - with Danny Roup 12:00 The Girl Next Door 12:30 Truth or Dare 13:00 Sounds from the Concert Hall 14:00 Echo Point 14:30 Tic Tac 15:00 The Best Israeli Video Clips 15:15 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News Magazine with Rati Reshet 17:30 Open Cards 18:00 Almost Perfect 18:30 Kickoff - soccer 19:00 Pacific Blue 20:00 News 20:30 Zohu Zah - live 21:05 Candid Camera 21:45 Dan Shilon Live 23:20 Exposure 00:00 News 00:05 Ticket for Two 00:30 From the Concert Halls

CHANNEL 6

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CHANNEL 7

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JORDAN TV

14:00 Holy Koran 14:08 Cartoons 14:30 Curiosity Show 15:00 They Came from Outer Space 16:00 NBA Basketball 17:00 Out of This World 17:30 French programs 19:30 News headlines 19:35 Parenthood 20:00 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema 20:30 Babylon 5 21:10 King Fu 22:00 News in English 22:25 Feature film: The Boy who Drank Too Much 00:00 Taratata

MIDDLE EAST TV

7:00 TV Shop 14:20 The 700 Club 15:00 Gospel Bill 15:30 Christie Lovel (1974) - TV movie about a beautiful policeman who goes undercover to catch a drug baron, With Teresa Graves and Harry Guardino. (100 mins.) 18:05 Family Challenge 17:40 Family Matters 18:05 Saved by the Bell 18:05 1992 Conquest of Paradise (1992) - historical epic about the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus. With Gerard Depardieu, Armand Assante and Sigourney Weaver. (148 mins.) 18:40 High Lonesome (1992) 20:25 Love is All There Is (1996) and His Money (1988) - an advertising executive who is looking for ways to get rich. When God speaks to him through his TV he is inspired to invent a new religion which fleeces his flock. With Jonathan Penner and Sandra Back. (80 mins.) 23:25 Blackout (1985) - a police officer is obsessed with one murder case and six years later begins to find new clues. With Richard Widmark and Keith Carradine. (94 mins.) 1:05 Model By Day (2003) - a beautiful woman is a top model in the daytime and at night she is fighting crime. (85 mins.) 2:30 Sensations (1988) - erotic. A prostitute and a male stripper join forces to win the lottery. (87 mins.)

DISCOVERY (8)

8:00 Open University - Astronomers: The Stars; Earth Revealed 10:00 Prophecy (pt) 14:00 Open University (pt) 16:00 Prophecy (pt) 18:00 Open University (pt) 20:00 Survival, part 28 - Flow Country - how the peat marshes of northern Ireland were formed, their wildlife and damage from afforestation 21:00 Works Apart, Awards Special 21:30 Star Watch Nights 22:30 Inspector Strangest Man 1:30 Oprah Winfrey 1:30 Barnaby Jones

CHANNEL 5

8:30 Bodies in Motion 18:00 Bodies in Motion 18:30 Soccer: Champions 17:30 NCAA

CHANNEL 6

8:30 Bodies in Motion 18:00 Bodies in Motion 18:30 Soccer: Champions 17:30 NCAA

CHANNEL 7

8:30 Bodies in Motion 18:00 Bodies in Motion 18:30 Soccer: Champions 17:30 NCAA

CHANNEL 8

8:30 Bodies in Motion 18:00 Bodies in Motion 18:30 Soccer: Champions 17:30 NCAA

CHANNEL 9

8:30 Bodies in Motion 18:00 Bodies in Motion 18:30 Soccer: Champions 17:30 NCAA

CHANNEL 10

8:30 Bodies in Motion 18:00 Bodies in Motion 18:30 Soccer: Champions 17:30 NCAA

MOVIE

11:00 On the Edge of the Shelf 12:45 The Streets of San Francisco 13:35 Duet 14:00 Jettas 14:50 Days of Our Lives 15:35 The Nanny 16:00 Hercules 16:15 Zingara 17:30 New York Daze 18:00 One Life to Live 18:45 The Young and the Restless 19:30 Local broadcast 20:00 Perla Negra 20:50 Cafe Paris 21:15 The Commish 22:55 High Society 23:20 Night Stand with Dick Dietrick 23:45 Law and Order 00:30 EKG Newsroom 1:20 Barnaby Jones 2:10 The Portrait 2:45 Mists 3:50 The Great Defender

MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 Trial By Fire (1995) (pt) 13:05 Bondell (1938) - first of the blonde series with Penny Singleton and Arthur Lake. (72 mins.) 14:25 Lethal Error (1990) (pt) 15:50 New in the Cinema 18:05 1992 Conquest of Paradise (1992) - historical epic about the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus. With Gerard Depardieu, Armand Assante and Sigourney Weaver. (148 mins.) 18:40 High Lonesome (1992) 20:25 Love is All There Is (1996) and His Money (1988) - an advertising executive who is looking for ways to get rich. When God speaks to him through his TV he is inspired to invent a new religion which fleeces his flock. With Jonathan Penner and Sandra Back. (80 mins.) 23:25 Blackout (1985) - a police officer is obsessed with one murder case and six years later begins to find new clues. With Richard Widmark and Keith Carradine. (94 mins.) 1:05 Model By Day (2003) - a beautiful woman is a top model in the daytime and at night she is fighting crime. (85 mins.) 2:30 Sensations (1988) - erotic. A prostitute and a male stripper join forces to win the lottery. (87 mins.)

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CHANNEL 7

8:30 Bodies in Motion 18:00 Bodies in Motion 18:30 Soccer: Champions 17:30 NCAA

CHANNEL 8

8:30 Bodies in Motion 18:00 Bodies in Motion 18:30 Soccer: Champions 17:30 NCAA

CHANNEL 9

8:30 Bodies in Motion 18:00 Bodies in Motion 18:30 Soccer: Champions 17:30 NCAA

CHANNEL 10

8:30 Bodies in Motion 18:00 Bodies in Motion 18:30 Soccer: Champions 17:30 NCAA

PRIME TIME TV

Table with 8 columns (1-8) and 4 rows of TV program listings.

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CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Went on a bicycle, say, one's to get off in a state (5,6)
10 Post offering support on the way up perhaps (5)
11 Second lieutenant of inferior rank (9)
12 None idle? Could be about 100 suffering from illness (9)
13 Cheerful when slightly drunk (5)
14 Full extent of a rise (6)
15 Kept at a distance when suspended temporarily from one's job (5,3)
18 Commending fruit that has been dried in Portugal (8)
20 Counterfeit coin must be replaced, about to be returned (6)
23 Take it easy, have some more laxatives! (5)
24 Immediately after which when ropa snagged trapping you, it was said (9)
26 Sense a smaller number do not have a flavour (9)
27 Literary effort? (5)
28 Up to your neck in it? (2,4,5)
DOWN
2 The man married and was given the chop (5)
3 She distressed Samson? (7)
4 Annie's removed crackers (6)
5 Bert, tail over the words of the opera (8)
6 Lily or Leonard went up to the boss (7)
7 How one may feel among heavenly apparitions? (2,4,7)
8 Its value may go up as it is passed down (8)
9 Fair exchange in sight? (2,3,2,3)
15 How one might get a bright idea? (2,1,5)
17 To some place new, Ray and he resort (8)
19 Score four less (7)
21 Esther, a remarkable lady (7)
22 Confusion when hash is finished (4-2)
25 Not quite through, it's almost out of date (5)

Crossword puzzle grid with solutions for the cryptic crossword.

QUICK CROSSWORD section with 20 numbered clues and their solutions.

MOVIES section listing various film titles, cast members, and showtimes.

Phone reservations: Tel Aviv 5252244
Phone reservations: Haifa 728778
All times are p.m. unless otherwise indicated.



Queen Elizabeth unveils a sculpture yesterday commemorating Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who helped rescue Jews from the Nazis during World War II. The sculpture, which stands in London's Great Cumberland Place, was commissioned by the Wallenberg Appeal, a project of the International Council of Christians and Jews. (Reuters)

Weizman: Har Homa is a logical compromise

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON - President Ezer Weizman said yesterday he believed the decision over building on Har Homa was a "logical compromise" and warned that "if the Palestinians jeopardize what we have achieved up to now, it will not be very clever."

On the second day of his three-day state visit to Britain, Weizman was asked how he would advise Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to respond to the Har Homa project. Weizman said he thought Arafat would be entitled "to be extremely angry, to voice his opinion, and to carry on with the peace process."

"The parties were moving 'in the right direction,'" Weizman said, and it would be "stupid, crazy" to damage the peace process.

Weizman also said Diaspora Jews should support the peace process. But then he added sharply, "I don't think they have a role to play. We are over our bar mitzva. We're looking after ourselves," he said. "I don't want to say, 'Don't do anything,' but we have passed our coming of age."

Weizman's press conference came just hours after Queen Elizabeth praised "the great contribution which Jewish families have made to our national life since the days of the Norman kings."

Addressing a state banquet for Weizman at Buckingham Palace, the queen recalled Britain's strong personal connections with previous Israeli presidents, including his uncle and Israel's first president, Chaim Weizmann, and his immediate predecessor, Chaim Herzog, who was born in Belfast and served with the British Army in World War II.

The queen praised Weizman's "personal contribution to the quest for peace," which she said had been "unsung, steadfast and greatly admired by your British friends."

Weizman, whose visit has attracted small knots of demonstrators protesting about the treatment of Mordechai Vanunu, who was convicted of espionage after passing nuclear secrets to the London newspaper *The Sunday Times*, was adamant that he would not grant a presidential pardon. "I don't think he deserves it," said Weizman. "He caused us damage. He was a traitor to his country. Period."

Earlier in the day, Weizman met opposition Labor Party leader Tony Blair and Labor foreign affairs spokesman Robin Cook. He also visited the Governor of the Bank of England Eddie George, accompanied by Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel.

Weizman lunched with Prime Minister John Major at Downing Street and, with the queen, unveiled a statue honoring Swedish wartime diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, who saved thousands of Hungarian Jews by issuing them with false papers.

"We are deeply saddened, not only by the fact that Raoul Wallenberg never had the opportunity to meet with those he saved," said Weizman, "nor was he personally thanked, but also because his fate remains a mystery due to his brutal abduction."

Wallenberg was arrested in Hungary by the Soviet army and reportedly died in jail in the 1950s.

Also attending the ceremony was Sweden's Princess Christina, Hungarian Culture Minister Balint Magyar, and UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan and his wife, Nene, a niece of Wallenberg.

Swiss agree to Holocaust fund

ZURICH (Reuters) - The Swiss government yesterday gave final approval to a Holocaust memorial fund that gives world Jewish groups a big say in how to distribute million of dollars in humanitarian aid to survivors.

The World Jewish Congress (WJC), which has led international criticism of Swiss banks and the Swiss financial role in World War II, welcomed the decision as a big step toward better Jewish-Swiss relations after months of bitter wrangling.

Foreign Minister Flavio Cotti told reporters that the Federal Council, or cabinet, approved a decree that sets up the fund on March 1 after agreeing how to administer the pool of cash at talks earlier this week with the WJC and Israeli representatives.

"These talks led to a proposal for a solution which today was approved by the Federal Council," Cotti told reporters in Bern after a cabinet meeting.

Cotti did not say whether the gov-

ernment was closer to a decision on whether it will also pay into the fund, a choice it has delayed making until around mid-year.

A government statement said the fund could be expanded with more donations expected from Swiss companies and its creation did not rule out setting up a broader Holocaust memorial foundation, which Bern is planning at a later date.

"This is a big step toward improving relations between the WJC and Swiss authorities," WJC assistant secretary general Maram Stern told Reuters.

The WJC and other critics, including US Senator Alfonse D'Amato, have accused Swiss banks of sitting on accounts left by victims of Nazi genocide and the country as a whole of profiting cynically from its neutral status in World War II.

The government agreed on February 12 to explore with Jewish groups how to administer humanitarian aid to Holocaust sur-

vivors from a fund launched with a donation of SFr 100 million from Switzerland's three biggest banks.

"The Federal Council will have overall supervision of the fund," the cabinet decree said.

"The object of the fund is to support needy persons who were persecuted because of their race, religion or political views or... otherwise were victims of the Holocaust/Shoah, as well as to support their descendants in need," the decree read.

Officials have said a large part of the money will likely go to Jewish groups and individuals in eastern Europe who were cut off from compensation for decades by the former Iron Curtain.

The decree sets up a board of seven directors, four of them Swiss to be named by Bern and three to be named by the World Jewish Restitution Organization (WJRO), an umbrella group of major Jewish organizations and the State of Israel.

WEATHER

City	Temp Range	Forecast
Haifa	8-18	clear
Tiberias	7-19	clear
Atula	5-18	clear
Somaria	9-12	clear
Tel Aviv	8-18	clear
Jerusalem	2-11	clear
Beersheva	7-17	clear
Dead Sea	12-20	clear
Eilat	6-21	clear

Forecast: Partly to partly cloudy

AROUND THE WORLD

City	Low	High	Forecast
Amsterdam	5-10	10-15	rain
Berlin	3-8	8-13	clear
Buenos Aires	15-20	20-25	clear
Chicago	3-8	8-13	clear
Copenhagen	5-10	10-15	clear
Frankfurt	5-10	10-15	rain
Geneva	5-10	10-15	rain
Helsinki	3-8	8-13	rain
Hong Kong	20-25	25-30	clear
London	5-10	10-15	rain
Madrid	10-15	15-20	partly cloudy
Los Angeles	15-20	20-25	clear
Moscow	5-10	10-15	clear
New York	5-10	10-15	clear
Paris	5-10	10-15	clear
Rome	10-15	15-20	clear
Stockholm	3-8	8-13	clear
Sydney	15-20	20-25	clear
Tokyo	5-10	10-15	clear
Toronto	5-10	10-15	clear
Yokohama	5-10	10-15	clear
Zurich	5-10	10-15	clear

'Rabin-Shas deal not like Bar-On'

BAR-ON

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

Former *Davar* journalist Amir Neuman said yesterday there's no similarity between his report of more than three years ago, in which he said a deal was struck between Shas and prime minister Yitzhak Rabin's government linking a hearing on Aryeh Deri's Knesset immunity and the Oslo agreement, and the alleged back-room dealings of the Bar-On affair.

The issue was raised yesterday by the *Yated Ne'eman*, which said the "Labor government conspired to postpone Deri's trial in exchange for Shas' support in the Oslo agreement - yet the police failed to open an investigation." The newspaper said Labor got away with its deal, but the authorities have come down on the Bar-On affair because it involves the political right.

Yated Ne'eman referred to a story that first appeared in *Davar* three and a half years ago. *Davar* reported an idea - which never took off - to postpone the removal of Shas leader Deri's Knesset immunity in exchange for Shas' support in the Oslo agreement.

Yated Ne'eman said the *Davar* story was almost identical to the Bar-On affair.

Reporter Neuman said yesterday that although Rabin's government had a Knesset majority, it sought

desperately to increase support for the Oslo agreement. Among the many ideas bandied about at the time was one to put off the debate on the removal of Deri's immunity by a few weeks to secure Shas' support.

Deri had already resigned from the cabinet, in keeping with his agreement with Rabin. But Shas was still in the coalition and Labor constantly courted it, Neuman said.

"The bottom line is, nothing came of it," Neuman said. "The idea met with the rejection of everyone who heard it. It wouldn't have passed the Knesset Committee. Committee Chairman MK Hagai Merom wasn't even approached, on the assumption that he would oppose it. Merom was determined to start the debate [on removing Deri's immunity] on schedule. MKs Ran Cohen and Avraham Poraz also objected."

Even Deri wasn't interested, said Neuman, "because a couple of weeks' delay in the removal of his immunity would have given him nothing. He had already quit the cabinet."

Labor spokesman Yoram Dori said the story was denied by all parties at the time. "It's a pity that after three years Neuman isn't admitting that he was misled," Dori said.

Labor sources said that if Neuman's story was so scandalous, why didn't the Likud and opposition parties demand an investigation at the time it was published, instead of claiming a "double standard" three and a half years later.

BACKGROUND The story behind attacks on Barak

By BATSHEVA TSUR

The attacks on Chief Justice Aharon Barak by Bar Association head Dror Hoter-Yishai are merely the resurfacing of personal animosity, a source close to Barak said yesterday.

"Barak's behavior was not normative behavior for a well-regulated society... Taking a stand on the appointment of the attorney-general [by the chief justice] is a sign that there is no proper division of powers between the judiciary and the executive," Hoter-Yishai reiterated yesterday, on Educational TV's *Erev Hadash*. On Monday, he had slammed Barak in a similar fashion.

On previous occasions, Hoter-Yishai has charged that Barak is more interested in publishing than in judging, the source said. He has even blamed Barak for the suicide of persons against whom he ruled in court. This, the source said, is simply based on personal animosity and not legal norms.

"Barak's first duty is to serve the public's interest. No one is forced to accept his opinion and, in the Bar-On case, his opinion was disregarded," the source said. "Normative behavior in a well-regulated society is to accept such an opinion by the chief justice," he added.

It is now up to the police to decide whether the nuances of the conversation between Barak and Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi were portrayed accurately to the cabinet, the source added.

Former attorney-general Michael Ben-Yair also came to Barak's assistance.

"For the past two years, there has been a growing tendency to blame the judiciary for all kinds of ills," Ben-Yair said on Israel Radio. "This is a serious warning light which Israeli society can not ignore," he added, saying that he agreed to be interviewed only because the chief justice could not defend himself.

Winning cards

In yesterday's daily Chance drawing, the winning cards were the 10 of spades, the 8 of hearts, the 10 of diamonds and the 7 of clubs.

PM's backers plan strategy for Likud meeting

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's supporters are acting to turn the Likud's Central Committee meeting on Sunday into a demonstration of support for the prime minister.

The committee meeting, initially scheduled for Sunday of this week, was put off ostensibly due to the bad weather. But leading Likud activists said the real reason for the delay was Netanyahu's fears of being attacked and criticized for his policy by Minister Ariel Sharon and MKs Benny Begin, Uzi Landau, Ruyi Rivlin and others.

The meeting was postponed in the hope that the decision to build in Har Homa this week would muster support for Netanyahu among the committee members.

Netanyahu also has been holding a series of private meetings with ministers and coalition MKs, whom he is asking to support him publicly or at least to tone down their public criticism of him over the alleged Bar-On affair.

After meeting Likud MKs Meir Sheerit and Ze'ev Boim earlier this week, the prime minister today met National Religious Party ministers Zevulun Hammer and Yitzhak Levy. Afterwards Netanyahu met Yisrael Ba'aliya ministers Natan Sharansky and Yuli Edelstein, who have been criticizing Netanyahu's behavior in the affair sharply.

The demonstration of confidence continued at a surprise birthday party held for Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi yesterday, at which the prime minister tried to dispel suspicions of a rift between the two over the Bar-On affair.

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The Public Committee considering Methods for Appointing the Attorney-General, and Matters connected with the Post

NOTICE

On February 13, 1997, the Minister of Justice, Mr. Tzahi Hanegbi, appointed a public committee, to consider in all aspects the criteria by which the qualifications of a candidate for the post of attorney-general should be considered, the method for submitting candidates' names, the method of appointing the attorney-general, the period for which the attorney-general should serve, and the method by which the committee's conclusions should be implemented - by legislation or otherwise.

The committee's terms of reference also include making recommendations on any matter relevant to the attorney-general's fulfillment of his duties.

The members of the committee are Judge Meir Shamgar (retired), Prof. Ruth Gabison, Prof. David Libal, Mr. Moshe Nissim, Adv., and Mr. Haim Zadok, Adv.

Anyone who wishes to submit proposals or comments is requested to do so in writing. Letters should be addressed to: The Public Committee considering Methods for Appointing the Attorney-General, 29 Salah A-Din St., Jerusalem 91010.

The Committee will decide whether it wishes to invite anyone who submits recommendations to appear before it.

Meir Shamgar
Chairman of the Committee